

Oman: Summit did not discuss U.S. plan

KUWAIT (AP) — Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs said in an interview published Sunday that the American plan for Middle East peace was not raised at the Arab summit held in Algiers. Minister Yusef bin Alawi called for further consultations to develop any positive points in the U.S. plan forwarded by Secretary of State George Shultz. "I am not aware of anything presented to the summit called the Shultz plan. But the conference discussed the approaches to peace. The American role, however, cannot be separated from the general framework of peace," bin Alawi said in an interview with the newspaper Al Seyassah. bin Alawi would not confirm or deny reports that Oman had decided to allow the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to open an office in Muscat as a result of two meetings held on the fringes of the summit between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the head of the Omani delegation. "The opening of a PLO office in Oman is not a problem in relations between the two sides," bin Alawi said. He said that it was up to the PLO to recognise United Nations Resolution 242.

Murphy says Shultz plan alive, page 5

Jordan Times

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Kuwait approves funds for uprising

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait Sunday approved payment of an unspecified sum to help support the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid told reporters. Speaking after the weekly cabinet meeting, he said the contribution was part of financial commitments agreed by Arab states at their Algiers summit. He declined to say how much had been approved or to whom the money would be paid. Palestinian sources said after the summit Arab leaders had pledged to provide a total of \$43 million, but other Palestinian sources have since denied any specific sum was agreed.

Libya, Algeria sign agreements

ROME (AP) — Libya and Algeria Sunday signed agreements dealing with taxation and investment, the official Libyan news agency JANA reported. The agency, in a dispatch sent from Tripoli and monitored in Rome, said that one agreement eliminated the problem of double taxation and another established an "Arab Libyan Algerian bank" for investment and commerce. Other agreements dealt with customs procedures, JANA said.

Sierra Leone seeks Kuwaiti investment

KUWAIT (R) — The president of Sierra Leone, Joseph Momoh, said Sunday his country was seeking funds from Arab states to finance new industrial and development projects. Momoh, who arrived in Kuwait Saturday, told reporters he had discussed with Kuwaiti officials the possibility of their providing loans for new investment and industrial projects. Momoh is visiting Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour which will also take him to Saudi Arabia.

New protests reported in Armenia

MOSCOW (R) — Hooligans smashed windows in houses in two towns south of Yerevan, the radio in the Armenian capital reported, and appealed for calm as tensions continued over a disputed territory in Azerbaijan. Yerevan Radio said the disturbances happened Friday in Masis and Sayat Nova, near the Turkish border, the British Broadcasting Corporation's monitoring service reported. It said there had been no injuries and said authorities had taken decisive measures to restore order. Yerevan Radio did not directly relate the disturbances to the dispute over whether a predominantly Armenian region of Azerbaijan should be transferred to Armenia. But it referred to tension in the republic and said some individuals were trying to "incite passions."

Sikh bomb kills 15 in India

KURUKSHETRA (AP) — A bomb planted by Sikh extremists exploded in the middle of crowd watching a popular televised Hindu epic Sunday, killing 15 people and seriously injuring 25 others, officials said. The bomb was concealed in a cloth bag and left in a crowd composed mostly of poor Hindu labourers gathered outside a television shop in a market, according to officers who spoke on condition of anonymity. They said the bomb apparently was detonated by remote control. Shortly after the bombing in Kurukshetra in Haryana state, Sikh radicals assassinated the head of a militant Hindu group in Punjab state. The Hindu leader's bodyguard and an aide also were killed. In other violence in Punjab, Sikh extremists allegedly shot and killed three police officers in two attacks late Saturday. They also were blamed for the killing of a Sikh farmer in Punjab Sunday.

Prague expels Western pacifists

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia ordered a group of Western human rights activists to leave the country after police detained them during a raid on an unofficial East-West seminar, a Western peace campaigner said Sunday. American Joanne Landy, one of the 32 foreigners expelled, told Reuters that plain clothes and uniformed police had arrested the group of mainly Western activists attending the Prague seminar Saturday and had held them for some five hours. Vienna-based emigre sources said that 10 Czechoslovak human rights campaigners, who had also attended the seminar on peace and democracy, were still under arrest.

3,000 rally against U.S.-Japan treaty

TOKYO (AP) — More than 3,000 people rallied against the U.S.-Japan security treaty in downtown Tokyo Sunday, and police said they arrested 21 protesters. It was the largest number of arrests in demonstrations against the treaty in Tokyo since 1983, the latest year for which police had records. The protesters, wearing helmets, carried flags with slogans such as "Scrap the U.S.-Japan security treaty" and snake-danced through downtown streets. Protesters were seen scuffling with police. Twenty-one were arrested for obstructing police trying to control the rally, said a Tokyo Metropolitan police official who spoke on condition of anonymity. Radicals demonstrate against the security treaty each June, the date in 1960 when the original 1952 pact was revised over strong opposition from some Japanese, the official said.

Cyprus police arrest Turkish soldier

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus police arrested a Turkish soldier Sunday in a disputed part of the buffer zone dividing Greek and Turkish Cypriots. They said he was detained in Athenou village, east of Nicosia, where Greek-Cypriot police shot dead a Turkish soldier last month after he broke into a house and killed a Greek-Cypriot soldier. Police said they were investigating why the soldier, who was wearing uniform, was beyond Turkish lines in the area. They said he had two sets of keys with him, one of which belonged to a Greek Cypriot in the village. The Athenou area is patrolled by U.N. peacekeeping soldiers but the Greek Cypriots have three national guard posts and a police station in the village.

Blaze injures 275 in U.S.

MASSACHUSETTS (AP) — Thousands of gallons of water failed to control a chlorine plant blaze that raged for a second day Saturday, sending clouds of gas over the city, injuring 275 people and forcing the evacuation of more than 6,000 residents. The city's five pumps were turned on the advanced laboratories facility in hopes of "turning the plant into a big swimming pool," said fire department spokesman Giorgio Placanco. The attempts Saturday to extinguish the blaze came after the city extended an evacuation order to 1.6 kilometres around the plant and 2.5 kilometres to the northeast, where winds carried gas clouds over a residential area. Two city high schools and a hospital were opened to house the evacuees. At least 150 people Saturday and 125 people Friday were treated at three city hospitals for skin burns and respiratory problems caused by the fumes, authorities said. There were no reports of serious injuries.

King: Superpowers accept int'l parley

BEIRUT (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein has said that the idea of an international conference on the Middle East "has become acceptable" after the U.S.-Soviet latest summit talks in Moscow.

"But details have still to be worked out in further meetings between the Soviets and the Americans," the King said in an interview published Sunday by the Beirut magazine Al Nahar Arab and International.

The King was quoted as saying U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had briefed him on U.S. President Ronald Reagan's summit talks in Moscow with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I got the impression that the idea of an international conference has become acceptable," the

King was quoted as saying. The magazine said its interview with the King was conducted during last week's Arab summit conference in Algiers.

The King said that there was not yet any specific formula for participation in the projected international conference but Jordan wants to attend as an independent and sovereign state that has the longest Arab border with Israel.

"Jordan has no ambition whatsoever except to help the Palestinian people regain their rights in their homeland, and Jordan has no wish to impose its hegemony or domination on anyone, the King said.

The King said there were no differences between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Orga-



HM King Hussein

nisation (PLO). He said Jordan had no differences with any Arab country, and described Jordanian-PLO relations as normal.

"Jordan will not represent the Palestine Liberation Organisation or act for it" at the called-for peace conference, the King was quoted as saying.

Rabin said holding secret talks with W. Bank, Gaza leaders

4 Palestinians wounded

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and wounded four Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and authorities closed three schools Sunday following student protests, Palestinian sources said.

An army spokesman said three boys were wounded in clashes during the night with troops at Balata refugee camp near Nablus.

Sources at Nablus' Itihad hospital said a 16-year-old boy was in critical condition with bullet wounds in the chest and two others, aged 19 and 15, were also injured.

Palestinians said a man, 20, was shot in the neck in the village of Salim when villagers clashed with troops.

Commercial activity in the occupied territories was slow but most schools were open following clashes between students and troops Saturday, when classes resumed after a two-day closure.

Israeli government leaders issued an appeal for the people to help in the battle against hundreds of fires that are being

(Continued on page 5)

Thatcher 'warned' Shamir over Mossad

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher warned Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir last year that Britain could censure his country's secret service over its activities here, according to a British television programme.

The World in Action programme, being screened Monday, says Thatcher wrote to Shamir in October saying the Mossad intelligence agency risked being classed as "unfriendly" if it tried again to infiltrate Arab groups in Britain without her government's knowledge.

The change from its current "friendly" classification would effectively ban Mossad from Britain.

Commenting on the programme, a government spokesman said only: "We made our profound concern known to the Israeli government last autumn."

On Friday Britain expelled an Israeli diplomat and a Palestinian whom it named as a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official. The expulsions followed disclosure of a Mossad operation at the London trial of an Arab double agent convicted of storing arms for a suspected PLO member, Abder Mustapha.

Ismael Sowan was recruited by Mossad to spy against Mustapha, whom police believe was connected with the murder last year of London-based Arab cartoonist Najji Ali Ali Adhami.

Israel provoked Britain's anger — and the expulsion — by not informing it about the arms.

The programme says Thatcher's letter was written two months after Sowan's arrest and just after Britain expelled a second Mossad agent, Bashar Samara, who had infiltrated the same PLO cell.



An Israeli police van smashed by stone-throwing protesters in Arab Jerusalem

Toronto summit begins with pageantry

TORONTO (Agencies) — Under siege-like security, Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney Sunday welcomed leaders of major industrial powers to an economic summit which promises some debt relief to the poorest Third World countries.

Sharpshooters deployed on rooftops and a helicopter-borne anti-terror squad stood by as Mulroney presided over a series of welcoming ceremonies in a square outside Toronto's city hall for the leaders attending the 14th annual economic summit.

Anxiety for their safety, particularly that of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who has been the target of previous attacks by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), intensified after police said they arrested a man who arrived from Ireland last September and overstayed a one-month visa.

Police said the man, Michael Derek Collins, 31, was arrested at his Toronto residence early Saturday and was being held pending an immigration hearing while investigations by the security task force continued.

Police would not give further details, but the arrest followed a report in the Financial Times of Toronto that police were tracking an Irishman who was a known supporter of the IRA.

Security forces in helicopters, on building tops and on foot and horseback watched to thwart any possible attack as Mulroney greeted the leaders one-by-one at half hourly intervals.

Nearby, Royal Canadian Mounted Police also patrolled in boats

Police see rightist link in Ozal attack

ANKARA (Agencies) — Investigations into an attempt to assassinate Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal are focusing on possible links with an ultra-rightist group active before the 1980 military coup, security sources said Sunday.

Turkish gunman Kartal Demirag, shot by police and seized after Saturday's attack, belonged to the Grey Wolves group blamed for many political killings in the late 1970s, they said.

Another former member of the group, Mehmet Ali Agca, shot and wounded Pope John Paul in St. Peter's Square, Rome, in 1981. He is now in jail in Italy.

"We are conducting a wide-scale investigation looking into political links," state security court prosecutor Nusret Demiral told reporters.

"The attacker is of sound mind and cool and collected. He has shown no signs of regret," he said.

Demirag, 32, an escaped convict jailed for attempted murder, would be taken back to the hall in Ataturk Stadium to reenact the shooting when he was able to leave hospital, Demiral said. Demirag would probably appear in court within two weeks.

Ozal, 60, was shot in the hand as he was addressing 5,000 members of his ruling Motherland Party and foreign diplomats. A second bullet just missed his head.

Officials said 15 other people

suffered bullet wounds in the ensuing chaos and panic as police opened fire in an apparent attempt to restore calm.

"It was a mistake for the police to open fire in a crowded hall to capture the assailant. Police fired at random," former Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit told reporters.

"Obviously some of the injured except the prime minister were hit by police fire. I hold police officials in the hall responsible."

According to officials of Numune hospital, 10 people remained hospitalised Sunday.

Demirag was convicted for attempted murder and sentenced to 10 years in prison last year, Ankara Governor Saffet Arıkan Beduk said. He was in hiding since he escaped from a low-security Mugla prison in January, the governor added.

Beduk said Demirag's gun, a 7.65 calibre British-made eight-shot pistol, jammed after two shots.

Police found 300 German marks (\$165) and 180,000 Turkish liras (\$130) on Demirag later, according to Turkish newspaper reports.

Turkish dailies reported Sunday that Demirag gave contradictory testimonies following his detention.

"I have psychological problems. I did not shoot to kill but fired to get killed," he was quoted as saying.

Ozal, his right hand bandaged

Iranian rebels capture Mehran

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The National Liberation Army (NLA), an Iraq-based organisation of Iranians opposed to the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, said its troops Sunday captured the Iranian border town of Mehran after fierce fighting.

A press officer at NLA headquarters in the Iraqi capital told reporters that NLA fighters "liberated" Mehran in a major offensive which started Saturday night.

In a statement telexed to the AP office in Baghdad, NLA commander Massoud Rajavi said the capture of Mehran "is a great victory and a basic step towards the overthrow of Khomeini's oppressive regime."

Rajavi said the operation "a prelude to the conquest of Tehran."

He said NLA forces entered the town at 10:30 a.m. (0630 GMT).

The Iranian News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, confirmed that fighting was going on in Mehran Sunday but said the attack was by Iraqi forces.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) claimed the Iraqis had used chemical weapons in their advance but that the chemical weapons had been neutralised by "new techniques."

It said, "the Muslim forces of Iran are now reportedly engaged in heavy battle with the Iraqi forces in the northeastern part of Mehran."

An earlier dispatch from IRNA

had said a six-pronged attack on Mehran was repulsed and only Iranian mopping up operations were continuing.

The Mehran offensive is the NLA's first major strike against Iran since Khomeini appointed war spokesman Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as military chief June 2.

Rajavi said in a statement to

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Iran says better ties possible with Britain

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A senior Iranian official said Sunday relations with Britain were improving and a visit by four British politicians to Tehran would help the process.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Larjani as saying relations had improved after Britain took a "logical and moderate" stance over alleged Iraqi use of chemical weapons.

Larjani welcomed the visit by the four British members of par-

Iraqis retake 13 peaks

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday its troops, fighting with heavy air support, drove Iranian forces from 13 peaks they had occupied in the northeastern mountains of Kurdistan. The victories took to 25 the number of peaks Iraq says it has seized since Tuesday in a major offensive to regain strategic heights lost to Iran in March. A high command communiqué said jets and helicopter gunships flew 553 missions Sunday in support of the offensive, which it said resulted in heavy Iranian losses.

liament (MPs), due to leave for Iran Sunday.

"We believe that such measures will be very effective in improving mutual relations and paving the way for economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation between the Islamic republic and Britain," said Larjani in the report monitored in Nicosia.

The four politicians are part of a Church of England mission seeking common ground with Tehran that might lead to the release of three Britons believed held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon.

In London, a Church of England spokeswoman said Iran wanted to open a dialogue with

(Continued on page 5)

Afghan fighters announce 'transitional government'

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — The main Pakistan-based Afghan Mujahadeen alliance Sunday named a "transitional government" it wants to replace the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah in Kabul.

A 14-member cabinet of two vice-presidents and 12 ministers was announced at a news conference here by previously named President Ahmad Shah.

Shah, a U.S.-educated engineer, said the alliance would soon announce where the transitional government would be based in Afghanistan.

Only one minister is a non-party technocrat, while all others are drawn from the seven parties forming the alliance, said Shah, who belongs to the Ittehad-i-Islami party.

The Western-backed Mujahadeen have refused Kabul's offers to join a coalition government with Najibullah's ruling People's Democratic Party (PDDA) which they say is communist.

The Mujahadeen announced their transitional government a day after Najibullah approved without change a new coalition cabinet named earlier this month.

Kabul Radio reported earlier that Najibullah greeted the 29-member cabinet led by Prime Minister Mohammad Hassan Sharq at his residence and congratulated them.

Sharq named the cabinet, in which members of Najibullah's ruling PDDA retain key posts, June 8.

Sharq, 62, was appointed prime minister on May 26 to form a coalition cabinet under Najibullah's national reconciliation policy aimed at getting the Mujahadeen to lay down arms.

It is still not clear how many of the ministers were from the PDDA which seized power in a 1978 military coup.

Mujahadeen claim control of key town, page 8



A Turkish photographer writhes in pain after he was shot during Saturday's attack on Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in Ankara

and in a sling, received a standing ovation Sunday when he returned to the final day of the Motherland Party congress.

Turkish newspapers reported responsibilities claims for the assassination attempt from seven different underground organisations, which included Marxist-Leninist, rightist and Muslim fractions.

None of the claims could be confirmed independently.

Eyup Asik, one of the deputy chairman of the party, said an

anonymous caller telephoned the party's headquarters 20 minutes before the incident and reported that the premier would be killed at the congress, the newspapers said.

Newspapers also reported that the assailant had either one or two accomplices who escaped later. But Beduk denied the reports.

Officials said immediately after the shooting that Demirag had acted alone, but other reports and claims later emerged.



Nermeen Murad draws a profile of the outgoing Marriott Hotel Manager Haile Aguilera (above)

Sportsman, businessman

AMMAN — Seven years ago Haile Aguilera and his wife arrived in Jordan to help the newly established Marriott Hotel stand on its feet. Now, the Aguileras are packing their suitcases to leave Jordan's Marriott and establish another in Poland.

Many Jordanians who have come into contact with the Aguileras, felt a legend of deeds and accomplishments that only those with an added sense of humour and tolerance could achieve in such a short period of time.

The rally man and his wife, the

patrons of the handicapped, spoke of their achievements humbly. In a farewell interview with the Jordan Times, Aguilera said that the majority of the activities initiated by the couple, such as the Jordan rally, were "started as fun."

But, the businessman in Aguilera believes the "motto" that one should mix fun with business. "I believe that we have to have fun, but behind all our activities we are also obtaining revenue for the hotel," Aguilera said.

Creating the market
Noting that "Amman is not New York," where the city itself offers many attractions, such as concerts and theatres, which positively affect hotels' business, Aguilera said that the Marriott business in Amman "is not that good, but out of our misfortune we created a market."

Aguilera believes that the Marriott's contribution to Jordan was the introduction of Jordan to the world of tourism. "I don't think

that I am going to see the results because the programme only started a year and a half ago but I have already felt the responses," he said.

Aguilera feels that the greatest attraction Jordan offers to tourists is Petra and other archaeological sites in the Kingdom. He feels that so far "the country has not been utilised in the right way". He cited Aqaba as an example. "I still do not know whether Aqaba is a tourist attraction or an industrial town. It lacks the facilities for tourism," he said.

The American businessman said that although Aqaba has many attractions of its own, "some things are still missing. Many of the countries, which were interested in Jordan as a tourist spot, have asked whether Aqaba had a shopping centre," Aguilera said.

He pointed out that "Jordan has Petra and nobody in the world has that." Aguilera said that Petra "is the focus point for any tourist, and it could be marketed and sold." A similar attraction is the Dead Sea which Aguilera felt "should be cleaned and its facilities should be increased."

Jerash, Aguilera added, should have activities all year round. According to Aguilera, certain groups interested in coming to Jordan have asked him if an opera or play such as the ones offered in Egypt, was offered. But, Aguilera said, "unless there is the Jerash Festival, it is empty."

Love for the races
Aguilera shyly shrugged the idea that he was the man behind the establishment of the Jordan Rally.

"If the rally has a name it is Derek Ledger, manager of the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ). All we did was help sponsor this activity," he said. But, he admitted his love for the race.

"All four members of my family have participated in the Jordan Rally over the years."

Aguilera said holding such events as the rally in Jordan, greatly contribute to the development of the country. He predicted that within a couple of years it will become part of the world championship rally.

"This is the first time in the history of car racing, a rally that is so young becomes so well organised," he said.

A business of care
An important feature of the Amman Marriott is that it has employed physically handicapped employees on its staff. The force behind their employment is Mrs. Aguilera but her husband maintains that "they are treated like all the other employees and we do not have any special things for them."

He added that if they "can produce like all other employees we employ them." The only special attention given to them is "providing them with a special environment if they work on a wheelchair," Aguilera said.

According to Mrs. Aguilera,

employing handicapped was successful. "The only difficulties we faced were from their families who were afraid for them to get out and around," she said.

Upon establishing the Amman Marriott seven years ago, the hotel faced a few problems which Aguilera felt were minor. First and foremost among those problems was to convince the girls and their families that it was "decent" to work as a receptionist or a hostess.

"It was really tough seven years ago and their families were even more of a problem," Aguilera said.

This problem, Aguilera noted, did not only apply to Jordanian women but to their male counterparts as well.

"Many Jordanians felt degraded at the prospect of serving others, it wasn't easy to hire a waiter for example," she said.

Other obstacles included the dilemma of how to keep up the quality of ingredients used in the Marriott kitchens.

"We needed fresh meat and fresh vegetables, and since they were not available we sometimes had to plan six months ahead of time to ensure their availability," she said.

Aguilera also felt that Arab hospitality and the eagerness of Jordanians to entertain their guests in their homes is one of the main contributions to the slow business in hotels and restaurants in Jordan.

"When you are invited by Jordanians in Jordan you are invited to homes because people here like to cook and like to show their hospitality," Aguilera added that he has learned to accept that and he does not think that the slow business in their restaurant is a result of their shortcomings.

"We have tried everything in the book and I do not think we are doing anything wrong," he said.

But, the businessman hoped the younger generation would change that.

"They are going out more and eventually we will catch up," Aguilera said.

The restaurant at the Marriott Hotel is not lacking in business but as Aguilera pointed out "there are no lines of people waiting to have dinner, nor do you need reservations."

The family man

Married for the past 27 years, Aguilera is still young and full of ideas and determination. In describing himself he said "I like fun." So when Aguilera is busy at home watching television, he watches comedies.

"My favourite television show of all times is 'Ba Ba Black Sheep' and it is the show for which I get tickets on the highway for speeding back home to watch."

What about Marriott business on a "MASH" night or a "Ba Ba Black Sheep" night?

Well Aguilera says, "my boss never organised anything on those nights because he knew I would not miss watching my heroes."

'15,000 Arabs in Israeli jails'

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli authorities have arrested at least 15,000 Palestinians in the Occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the uprising six months ago, but allowed Red Cross officials to visit only 5,000 of them until now. President of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura said Sunday.

He said 2,000 of these prisoners are being held in a desert camp in the Naqab area, suffering from bad living conditions.

The JNRCS, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), has been trying to ensure that the detainees are provided with proper health services, but the Israeli authorities have been preventing any visits, Abu Qoura said.

He said that the Israelis are also preventing large shipments of food and medical supplies from reaching Palestinian refugee camps, in total violation of the Geneva Conventions.

Abu Qoura said that the Israeli authorities have transformed some of the West Bank and Gaza Strip hospitals into military posts and prevented Arab hospitals, still operating in the occupied territories, from acquiring additional emergency equipment and ambulances to carry out emergency operations.

He said that these and the demolition of Arab homes, the building of Jewish settlements and the expulsion of Arabs from their homeland have been committed in violation of these conventions and condemned by the United Nations.



Ahmad Abu Qoura

Abu Qoura said that Israel was violating the Geneva Conventions despite the fact that it had signed the conventions in 1951.

Press to join pilgrimage team

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has decided to include representatives of the local Arabic press in its mission accompanying pilgrims to Saudi Arabia during the coming pilgrimage season.

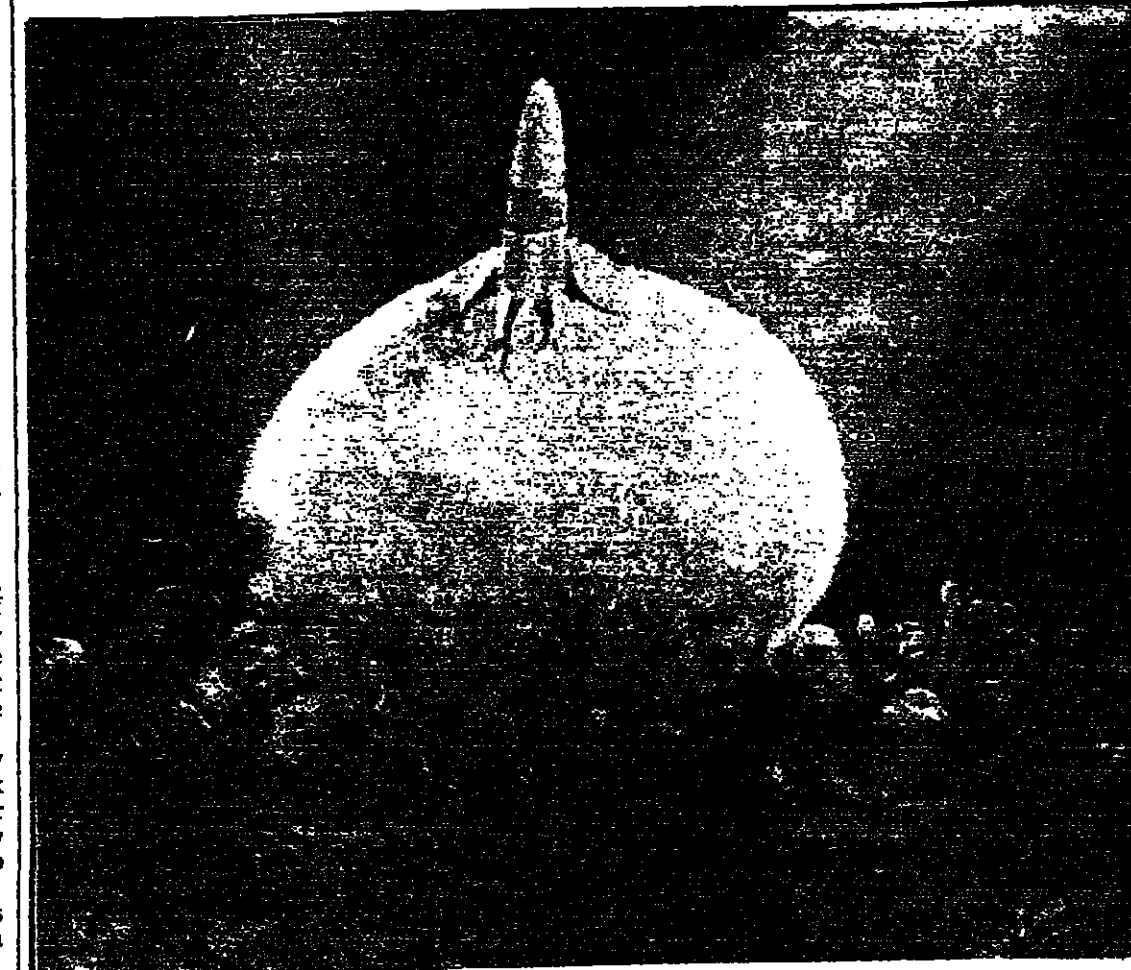
A ministry official said correspondents from Al Rai, Al Dustour and Sawt Al Shaab newspapers will be sent to cover the pilgrimage in Mecca and Medina.

The ministry earlier announced that a total of 11,500 people from the East and West Banks, the Gaza Strip and regions in Palestine occupied since 1948, will travel from Jordan by land to perform the pilgrimage in Mecca this year.

The ministry normally sends a team of officials, doctors and other personnel to accompany the pilgrims.

All pilgrims, travelling to the holy places this year, will be inoculated against meningitis according to ministry officials, who said that the inoculation, which will be given free of charge, was requested by the Saudi health authorities.

The pilgrimage precedes the Eid Al Adha (Feast of Sacrifice) which culminates the rites in Mecca and is expected to fall on July 29 this year.



ART EXHIBITION — The second art exhibition by Rizek Abdul Hadi opens at the Petra Bank Gallery Monday, June 20, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali. The exhibition will last one week.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.			
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77311-19		TODAY'S EVENTS		QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT		EMERGENCIES			
PROGRAMME ONE 15:30 Koran 15:50 Programme review 16:55 Cartoons 16:15 Children's programmes 16:30 Al Masha'el (children's educational programmes) 17:15 Children's programme 17:30 Educational programme 18:25 Local series 19:30 Local programme 19:40 Programme review 20:00 News in Arabic 20:35 Arabic series 21:40 Programme review 22:05 Local programme 23:00 News summary in Arabic		EXHIBITIONS * A permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle. * A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel. * A photo exhibition at the Jordan University of Science and Technology. * A Chinese books and arts exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre. * Sculptures by Salam Al Madhagh at the French Cultural Centre. * An exhibition of Arabian Calligraphy by Dr. Sami Nasib Mikareem at Alia Art Gallery. * Creative power in oil paintings "An Abstract Expressionism" 6.00 p.m., Royal Cultural Centre. * Paintings by Rizk Abdul Hadi, Petra Bank Gallery. * Worldnet Interactive with Tunis Journalism Seminar 3.00 p.m., American Centre.		MUSEUMS "Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and adventure for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday. Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also costumes from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Has Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.		ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 10:00 Aqaba (RJ) 10:10 Damascus (RJ) 10:20 Larnaca (RJ) 10:30 Cairo (RJ) 10:40 Kuwait (RJ) 10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 10:45 Sana'a, Jeddah (RJ) 13:00 Kuwait (add.) (RJ) 17:45 Cairo (RJ) 18:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:35 Bucharest (RJ) 19:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ) 19:15 Tripoli (add.) (RJ) 22:10 Baghdad (RJ) 22:30 Jeddah (add.) (RJ) OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) 10:20 Sana'a (LH) 13:00 Istanbul, Ankara (TK) 13:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF) 13:20 Cairo (MS) 14:35 Kuwait (RJ) 20:15 Beirut (ME) 22:30 Baghdad (AF)		NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Munir Wardah 782352 Dr. Atef Dabbas 668384 Dr. Sahal Tannous 894964 Dr. Jassid Marayef 776149 Firas pharmacy 661912 Nairovich pharmacy 637055 Al Salami pharmacy 636730 Yacoub pharmacy 644945 Shmeisani pharmacy 637660 TAXIS: Aburam taxi 663911 Zaid taxi 664476 Khayyan taxi 645461 Cairo taxi 819157 Jordan taxi 623050 Kardi taxi 841309	
PROGRAMME TWO 18:00 Le Demon Ecarlate 19:00 News in French 19:15 Weekly Sport magazine 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Perfect Strangers 21:00 Secret Army 22:00 News in English 22:25 Feature film: "Munster Go Home"		CHURCHES St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757. Assumption Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601339. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751. Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Samir 811295. Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Veli. The Church of Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821264.		PRAYER TIMES 03:46 Fajr 05:27 Sunrise 12:37 Dhuhr 16:29 'Asr 19:51 Maghreb 21:28 Isha WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. There will be a slight increase in temperature with north-westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, the winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.		HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6 Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 642412 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 Malinas, J. Amman 636146 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Al-Muasher Hospital 6672719 The Islamic, Abdali 666127/57 Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646 Irbid, Al-Muasher 771010/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26 Army, Marka 891611/15 Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Hospital 674155			
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9580 KHz, SW Tel: 77411-19		FILM * Le Destin de Juliette 20.00 hrs. French Cultural Centre.		DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1) 07:30 Kuwait (add.) (RJ) 07:45 Aqaba (RJ) 11:30 Tripoli (add.) (RJ) 11:45 Bucharest (RJ) 12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ) 12:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 13:30 Cairo (RJ) 18:30 Kuwait (RJ) 20:40 Kuwait (RJ) 20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 20:50 Larnaca (RJ) 21:10 Cairo (RJ) 21:30 Jeddah (RJ) 21:35 Dubai, Muscat (RJ) 21:50 Beirut (RJ) 22:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ)		GENERAL Jordan Television 773111/19 Radio Jordan 774111/19 Ministry of Tourism 642311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661276 Telephone information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 17 Overseas calls 17 Repair service 11			
07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsdesk 08:00 Morning Show 08:30 News Summary 08:45 Just a Minute 09:00 Good Vibrations 11:00 Readings 11:30 News Summary 12:00 Pop Session 12:05 News Summary 13:00 Pop Session Contd. 14:00 News Bulletin 14:30 Special Feature 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals 16:30 Old Favourites 17:00 Young Sound 17:30 Pop Session 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Sports Roundup 18:30 Music 19:00 News Desk 19:30 Date with a Star 20:00 Evening Show 21:00 News Summary 21:05 Evening Show Contd. 22:00 News Summary		VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00		MONEY EXCHANGE Local sell/buy rates in fils Belgian franc (for 10) 90.2 / 100.2 Dutch guilder 184.9 / 186.7 French franc 61.4 / 62 Italian lire (for 100) 27.9 / 28.2 Japanese yen (for 100) 283.8 / 286.6 Swedish crown 59.5 / 61 Swiss franc 249.2 / 251.7 U.S. sterling pound 640 / 653.5 U.S. dollar 525.2 / 559.2 W. German mark 207.5 / 209.6		MARKET PRICES Upper/lower prices in fils per kg Apple (French) 400 / 360 Apricot 550 / 450 Banana 350 / 300 Banana (Mukamas) 300 / 250 Beans 100 / 70 Cabbage 90 / 60 Carrot 120 / 80 Cauliflower 150 / 100 Cherry (green) 300 / 250 Cherry (red) 650 / 500 Corn 100 / 70 Cucumbers 150 / 120 Eggplant (large) 250 / 200 Eggplant (small) 240 / 180 Garlic 350 / 300 Grapes 650 / 580 Lemon (yellow) 450 / 380 Lemon (green) 300 / 250 Mallow 300 / 200 Marrow 100 / 70 Onion (dry) 80 / 50 Oranges (local) 320 / 280 Ostrich 440 / 380 Peas 450 / 400 Pepper (hot) 450 / 400 Pepper (sweet) 450 / 400 Potato 160 / 120 Strawberry 800 / 700 Tomatoes 120 / 80 Watermelon 80 / 50 Sweetmelon 150 / 100			

Dr. H. H. H. H.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REGENT VISITS ARMY UNIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, joined army units of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division in attending ceremonies marking the Great Arab Revolt. Accompanied by his son Prince Rashid, Prince Hassan met with the officers and troops and congratulated them on the anniversary. He also made a brief speech outlining the importance of the Great Arab Revolt for the Arab Nation.

GREAT ARAB REVOLT: The governorate of Irbid has made plans to celebrate the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt Tuesday. The celebrations include sports and youth programmes, speeches, national dances and songs. Similar celebrations will be organised in the Balqa governorate on Wednesday. Balqa Governor Mijhem Khreisha said that the two-day celebrations include a seminar on the aims and national objectives of the Great Arab Revolt.

AGREEMENT ENDORSED: The cabinet has endorsed an agricultural cooperation agreement between Jordan and Kuwait signed here on June 9. The agreement, which was concluded during a visit to Amman by the Kuwaiti Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs Ibrahim Al Du'eij, paves the way for bilateral cooperation in all aspects of agriculture and fisheries, and opens the door for joint investment in both sectors.

SUNNAA LEAVES FOR ROME: The President of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) Dr. Sami Sunnaa left for Rome today to take part in a meeting of the Near-East, North Africa, Regional Agricultural Credit Association due to open Monday. The week long meeting will discuss subjects pertaining to the association's activities in the past year as well as a future plan and programmes to develop regional credit organisations.

NON-ALIGNED MEETING: Jordan will take part in the meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement's special committee on economic cooperation, due to be held in Zimbabwean capital of Harare on July 4. The Jordanian delegation will be headed by the Foreign Ministry International Organisations Department Director Khalil Uthman.

PSD nabs forgers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) Sunday announced the capture of a five-member gang specialising in forging pieces of antiquities and selling them at very high prices.

The PSD's Anti-Narcotics and Forgery Department Director Ghaleb Zou'bi said the gang had been moulding ordinary pieces of gold to look like ancient Roman coins, and also selling stone statues with fake Roman lettering dating back to the reign of Emperor Hadrianus and Mark Anthony.

The five were caught when department members, posing as potential buyers of the fake antiquities, contacted the gang to buy some of their goods and caught them red handed, Zou'bi said.

He said that the gang did not only yield the coins and statues they were peddling, but also the cast and other equipment used to prepare the fake products.

According to Zou'bi, the forgers were very clever in imitating the original antiquities and had brought in their equipment from a neighbouring Arab country to carry out their work.

He said that a piece of gold worth JD 35 used to be sold by the gang for JD 500 after moulding it to look like a real piece of antiquity.

They used to operate between Irbid and Amman, according to Zou'bi, who said that they have now been referred to the judicial authorities for trial.



One of the fake statues by the gang of five who were apprehended by the police

Rifai's relative dies in U.S. car crash

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Salwa Rifai, a relative of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, has died of injuries she suffered in a motor vehicle accident last weekend, family friends said. She was 45.

Mrs. Rifai had been in critical condition at Westlake Community Hospital in Los Angeles since the June 11 accident, said Dr. Sabri Al Farra, a physician and family friend.

A nursing supervisor at the hospital, who declined to be identified, said Mrs. Rifai died Saturday.

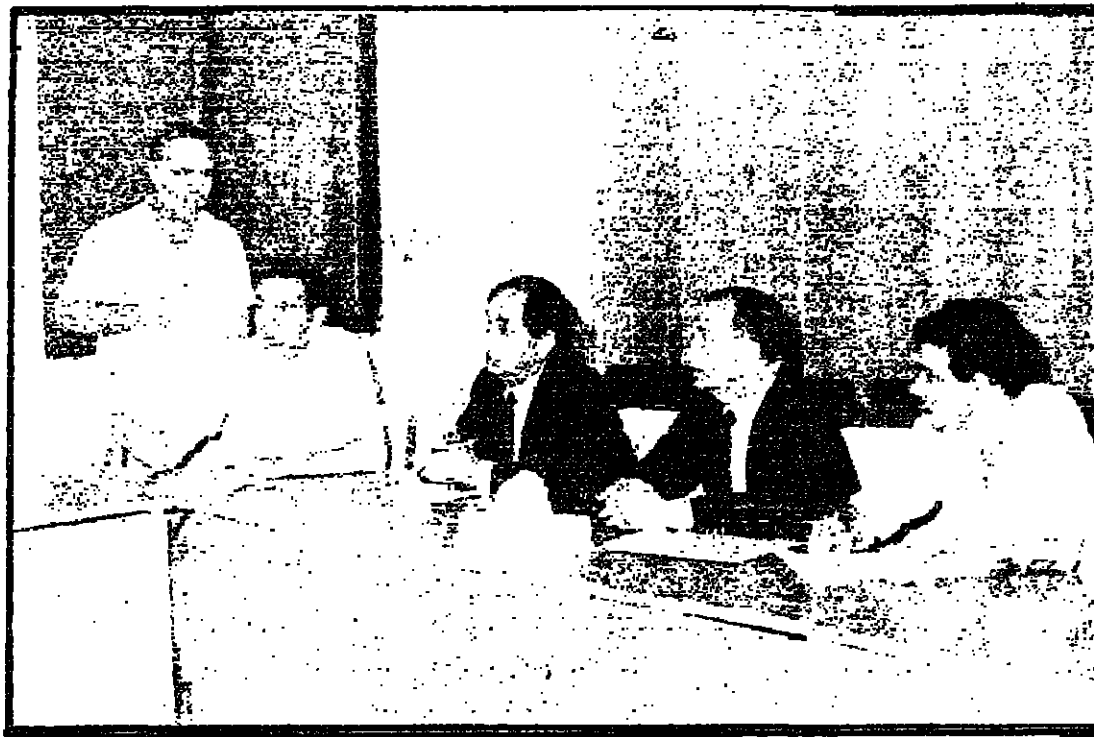
Her late husband, Hisham Rifai, was the prime minister's

uncle, Al Farra said. Hisham Rifai was a public official, representing Jordan in various U.N. agricultural delegations, Al Farra said.

She recently obtained her Master's Degree in mass communications at Cal State Northridge, about 40 kilometres north west of downtown Los Angeles.

She was involved in the Southern California Arab Community, having helped organise Jordanian participation in the 1984 Olympic Cultural Festival and this year's Rose Parade, Al Farra said.

She is survived by a daughter, Dima, 22, and son, Raed, 21.



Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd attends a meeting of the General Union of Voluntary Societies on rehabilitation of the handicapped (Petra photo)

Hindawi inspects exam halls

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Minister of Education Thouhan Hindawi Sunday made inspection tours of a number of examination halls where students of the top secondary class (Tawjihi) and the third preparatory class at Jordanian schools are taking their general examination: marking the end of the 1987-1988 scholastic year.

Officials in other areas inspected examination halls and met students taking the examinations which will last until the end of June.

In Tunis, the "Arab School" which follows the Jordanian educational system has prepared its students for the same Tawjihi examination and are taking the examination session at the same time, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

It said that a special Ministry of Education team is in Tunis now

supervising the examination session.

Meanwhile, students at private and public schools in the occupied West Bank, who normally take the same examinations, are this year prevented from doing so due to the closure of the schools and the current uprising.

The Ministry of Education in Amman was reported earlier contemplating measures to deal with the situation by either exempting the students from the end-of-year examinations or allowing them three months time, during this summer, to study and sit for a special examination session.

Jordanian architect to judge Aga Khan Award

AMMAN (J.T.) — Renowned Jordanian architect Rasm Badran was one of nine international architects and academics chosen to judge more than 200 contestants competing for the prestigious Aga Khan Award.

Also sitting on the "master jury" to judge the contest are such prestigious international

architects as Esin Atil, curator of the Sackler Gallery in Washington, D.C., Hassan Poerbo, professor of architecture and planning at Bandung Institute of Technology, and Oleg Grabar, professor of Islamic Art at Harvard University.

The 200 international contestants will be judged based on

architectural projects to be completed in the next two years.

Awards will be given in the areas of "restoration, social merit, and architectural excellence."

Winners will be announced in June 1989. They will receive designated portions of the total \$50,000 prize fund.

Jordan seeks self-sufficiency in agriculture, U.S. expert says

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — There are several problems that besiege the Jordanian agricultural sector. One problem, that of self-sufficiency, was explored by the Washington State University (WSU) President, Dr. Samuel Smith, during his visit to Jordan last week.

According to the president, who has been involved in agriculture for most of his life, "economic development is dependent on educated people in the long run."

In Jordan to familiarise himself with WSU projects in the country, Smith met with Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud, the director of the National Centre for Agriculture Research and Technology Transfer, University of Jordan President, Abdul Salam Al Majali and the deans of agriculture and research studies.

A plant pathologist by degree, Smith interviewed individuals and found that the main concern for Jordan in the agricultural field, was for "self-sufficiency."

"Although Jordan is self-sufficient in the production of vegetables and fruits, there is a deficiency in the production of red meat and grains. The goal should be to have sufficiency or to trade excesses with other countries' excesses," he said.

Self-sufficiency can be established through the development of companies to process the ex-

cess products. For example Smith said: "Jordan produces more tomatoes than it needs. Selling the tomatoes, a cheap commodity, requires high shipping costs. A more cost relevant investment would be to make the excess tomatoes into say ketchup or pizza sauce."

Value added products make trading "worth it" since the shipping costs will be covered, he added. "The question Jordan should ask itself is whether it should develop industries or bring them in."

WSU has sent teams over the years to train Jordanians "to improve the present level of production." According to Smith the basic Jordanian agriculture is fairly sound, "however, the agricultural sector needs more sophistication to further advance its production."

"The basic need in Jordan is to form a system whereby educated people work on problems specific to Jordan," he said, adding that the University of Jordan is striving to establish this and the Ministry of Agriculture has voiced its support.

Smith compared Jordan with eastern Washington where the climatic conditions are similar. "I have seen progress there and I believe Jordan can make progress provided the teaching, research and extension work is improved."

Further explaining, he said the teaching will provide educated

people, who will then research specific problems in Jordan and give the information they have gathered to those who will benefit.

Smith stressed that the research and extension must be done by Jordanians. "The chemistry and physics of soil is fairly well known, but before any work can be done in Jordan, Jordanian researchers must study what would work specifically for Jordan. They must live in Jordan and see what changes take place from season to season."

WSU has been involved in international development for the past 30 years. Jordan was chosen as an area of concentration in the Middle East and for the past 15 years several contracts have been signed and student and faculty exchange programmes initiated. "Jordan has the potential for being the educational centre for Middle East," Smith noted.

Recently one of WSU projects, the Jordan Valley Development Project, which worked on developing research and an extension system for agriculture for five years, completed its work.

However, WSU signed another five year contract with the Jordan Highland Agricultural Development Project sponsored by USAID (United Nations Agency for International Development), located at the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer at Baqa'a.

GUVS to set up 3 new centres for handicapped

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) plans to set up three centres for the rehabilitation of mentally retarded children in Ma'an, Madaba and Amman, and has allocated JD 90,000 to set up these centres, GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib said here Sunday.

Speaking at a meeting with Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, about projects for the rehabilitation of handicapped people in Jordan, Khatib said that the projected centres will accommodate up to 60 children each, aged between six and fifteen, who will be provided with special education.

Khatib said that the GUVS has rented four buildings in Jerash, Kafrajin, Amman and Zarqa to set up four special education centres at the cost of JD 60,000 and has embarked on building the "Amal Centre for the Rehabilitation of Children with Multi-handicaps at Yajouz, at the cost of JD 350,000.

He said that the Yajouz centre, which is being built in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development, will accommodate up to 150 handicapped children.

Prince Ra'd who is President of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped, discussed other GUVS projects with Khatib and lauded the union's endeavours to help the handicapped and less fortunate members of the Jordanian society.

Prince Ra'd urged GUVS to invest in income-generating projects so that they can provide funds for more social development schemes in the Kingdom.

According to Khatib, GUVS gave JD 54,000 to voluntary and charitable societies in Jordan in 1987. This amount was increased to JD 1.033 million by the end of 1987.

He told Prince Ra'd that this year GUVS intends to donate JD +40,740 to these societies to help promote their activities.

Prince Ra'd and Khatib agreed to set up a standing committee to

meet periodically to discuss the situation of the handicapped in the Kingdom and means of promoting the work of institutions offering them care and rehabilitation.

The committee, who's chairman will be Prince Ra'd, will also take measures to involve private and public organisations to help the handicapped.

The meeting with Prince Ra'd coincided with the GUVS announcement Sunday of a number of decisions to boost the work of voluntary societies in the country.

A GUVS official said that apart from the sum of JD 440,740 to be distributed to various societies in the country, the GUVS will offer additional sums to help finance projects carried out by charitable institutions in Karak, Ma'an, Balqa, Zarqa and Madaba.

The GUVS, the official said, has requested the Ministry of Education to open, on an experimental basis, 20 classes for educating handicapped children within the government schools.



Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Khaled Al Haj Hassan Sunday receives the Under Secretary of Iraqi Ministry of Transport, Ghassan Radwan (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan leaves for Tunis talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan left for Tunis Sunday to take part in the Arab Ministers of Transport's Executive Council meeting due to open on June 21.

In a pre-departure statement the minister said the council will discuss a pan-Arab transport strategy, manufacturing instruments and equipment used in the transport sector and means to deal with misconduct and fraud in

maritime transport operations.

The council is also expected to discuss setting up a specialised Arab corporation to classify ships and lay down regulations related to transport as a tool for promoting trade exchanges among Arab states, the minister noted.

He said that a report on the accomplishments of Arab transport federations will be read out at the council's meeting.

Before leaving for Tunis, Haj Hassan met with visiting Iraqi

Ministry of Transport's Under Secretary Ghassan Radwan and Mr. Jamil Ibrahim, the director general of the Jordan-Iraq Land Transport Company.

They reviewed subjects of common interest to Jordan and Iraq and the transportation of Iraqi goods that arrive at Aqaba.

Coordination between the Jordanian and Iraqi Ministries of Transport with regard to joint companies, was also discussed at the meeting.

Shahadeh's abstracts show balance of opposites

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Although his work is both widely appreciated and in demand both here and abroad, Nabil Shahadeh has never held a solo exhibition in his home town of Amman, his reputation being gained solely through a few works seen at occasional group shows.

That so few works should have drawn so much attention is an achievement which in itself testifies to the artists talents and abilities.

Consolidating his reputation this week is an impressive display of around 60 of Shahadeh's recent abstract paintings which are on exhibition appropriately at the Jordan National Gallery.

Taken as a whole the work is stunning. Abstract in the non-objective sense of the word, it is fresh, vital, at times wild yet always controlled. And this is the key to Shahadeh's work — it is a

balance of opposites. For every positive point there is a negative one, for every patch of light there is a shadow, for every movement there is a continuation, an echo.

Almost mathematical in their precision, Shahadeh's abstracts are at the same time totally spontaneous, uninhibited, a rare combination that is almost certainly the result of the way Shahadeh approaches his work. Initially Shahadeh does nothing but imbibes, he drinks in nature in all her aspects, he sketches on paper after paper throwing away all, until, satiated he feels he can begin to work.

As he works with his oil and acrylic on paper and canvas he works instinctively, unconscious of what he is trying to achieve he uses no set formula to make his paintings work. Each painting is a new problem and one which is solved individually, separately. In this way each painting is essentially very different from the rest

while remaining very much the work of the artist.

The idea of each painting being unique while being part of a whole is brought more forcefully home by Shahadeh's triptyches and by the small grids of paintings which make up the "Long Story" series.

ART REVIEW

These paintings, cleverly linked by splashes and bands of colour, at first seem to be just one painting divided up. Look closer however and one realises from the tiny chinks of light which penetrate the edges, from the perfect balance of swimming surface colours with the ones that dive deeply into the canvas, and of the floating forms with the explosive rush of lines, that each is a painting in its own right. Entire and whole there is no way each small painting could have been painted other than indi-

vidually and yet paradoxically each small painting makes up a vital part of something larger.

Also unifying the work are Shahadeh's soft and subtle colours. Whether applied in thick smooth bands that divide the canvas in bold and daring ways, or in misty and ephemeral brushstrokes that allow each layer of colour to glow through, or simply wild, swirling reminiscent of the early work of Willem De Kooning, Shahadeh's colours are always delicate and rich.

Often dark and turbulent his royal blues and deep browns never lapses into the muddy or the dull and neither do his lighter more effervescent colours — the burnt oranges, vermillion reds — lapse into the raw or acerbic.

Although complex and difficult Shahadeh's abstracts rarely fail to work — of the 60 paintings on show, the ones that do not quite make the grade can be counted on one hand. And this is the essence of Shahadeh's success —

his paintings work in a very real sense. The result of total commitment and dedication to his art mixed with talent, creativity and remarkable technical ability, the abstract art of Nabil Shahadeh is ultimately profoundly satisfying.

CONDOLENCES

Munir, Anelle, Tarek, Reem and Yousef Nassar announce with deep regret and sorrow the passing away of their beloved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother

ERNA LUECK

Condolences will be accepted on Tuesday 21st at the Nassar residence in Abdoun from 10:00 a.m.

Rothmans JORDAN

JORDAN INTERNATIONAL

Congratulates

Mohammad Bin Sulayem, Ronan Morgan and Toyota Middle East Team on their win in the 1988 Jordan International Rally.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:
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Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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Another step in a long way

THE pilot solar-wind energy project formally opened by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at Jurf Al Darawish last week is a modest symbol of the advances Jordan has made in its quest for national development. Handicapped or aided by the absence of commercial oil (the point is debatable, since some economic pundits contend that Arab countries would have made major self-generated technological progress had it not been for the "blessing of black gold"), Jordan has often shown the way for other developing Arab and non-Arab countries to follow in many fields. We have also selflessly provided fellow Arab states with the results of our research and experience.

Jordan has underlined the fact that the Arab World does have the potential to develop indigenous technology, if only the political leaders would take some time away from Western-oriented development and devote some serious thought and investment to what could be achieved locally, without having to depend solely on the industrial world. But the sad reality remains that few Arab countries have given more than lip-service to the concept of tapping indigenous Arab intellect and capabilities, whether in industry or in efforts to achieve Arab food security.

Jordan is often left alone to foot the bill for costly research, but many others can share, and benefit from, our findings. Jordan has allocated part of its resources for the newly established Higher Council for Science and Technology. The allocation is far from being enough even to fulfill a fraction of what the council could actually do, but that is the best Jordan could spare under the present circumstances. We wonder whether other Arab countries have given any serious consideration to the concept and the motivation behind Jordan's move, or have sought to extend a helping hand to an endeavour which could benefit the entire Arab World?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Confrontation escalates

THE military commander of the occupied Arab West Bank has admitted that the occupied territory would never return to the situation existing before the current uprising started and that the escalation of the uprising is making it more and more dangerous for the Israeli army if it was not ready for a prolonged confrontation with the Arab protesters. This is a clear admission of failure of the Israeli government's iron fist policy which Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin had thought it would quell the uprising in a short time. This statement means that the Arab population under Israeli rule will continue the uprising and the revolt for freedom for a very long time to come. But this statement also means that the Israeli authorities are determined to pursue repressive measures against the Palestinians which in turn undermine current efforts for establishing peace in the Middle East. This calls for stepped up assistance to the Palestinians so that they can maintain their uprising and thwart all Israeli's policies and expansionist designs in our region. The Palestinians are facing Israeli's arbitrary measures which lately included burning of Arab crops, and could be followed by more criminal actions. The Arab countries ought also to carry their support for their Palestinian kinsmen at the international level and should urge the United Nations to take measures that can stop such atrocities.

Al Dustour: King reaffirms Jordan's stands

KING Hussein made a statement to a Lebanese magazine reaffirming Jordan's firm stands with regard to the general situation in the Middle East and the question of an international peace conference. He made it clear that Jordan wants to see all of the occupied Arab territories completely liberated and that the Palestinian people's rights restored. The King also maintained that Jordan has no ambition except these goals and does not want to have any form of domination on the Palestinian people who should have the right to determine their own future. Jordan, the monarch said, has no objection to the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people, but out of a national commitment the Kingdom will continue efforts and coordination with Arab and foreign countries to bring about peace based on justice and an end to occupation. Jordan, through its clear policy explained by the King in the interview with the Lebanese magazine, has succeeded in transforming itself into a channel of communication and a bridge linking Arab countries and contributing towards their solidarity and unity of ranks. Jordan's policies characterised with stability, moderation and wisdom have won the country deep respect and appreciation from various Arab states and the international community at large.



Sawt Al Shaab: On firm grounds

JORDAN'S national stand and diplomatic moves as presented to the Algiers Arab summit hinge on a number of firm and basic pillars that are at the foundation of the Kingdom's policy. Jordan relies on pan-Arab support in its current moves to bring about a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem and continues to seek an international conference, because it is the only feasible way for achieving peace in the area. Jordan pursues efforts for a peaceful solution and wants to end the deadlock in the endeavours to reach a solution since that deadlock can bring harm to the Arab cause and the continued struggle of the Palestinian people for freedom. Jordan is also committed to the six-point document handed to the U.S. secretary of state during his tours of the Middle East because it embodies the principles in which the Arab Nation believes and seeks to establish. As these moves continue Jordan will pursue efforts to consolidate unity of Arab ranks and promote inter-Arab solidarity.

Forum for world's 'wise men'

By Waleed Sadi

ONE may postulate on the underlying reasons for the emerging rapprochement between Washington and Moscow especially in the wake of the latest summit between President Reagan and Chairman Gorbachev. There is no denying that the most recent summit between the two leaders constitutes a giant turning point in the relations not only between the Soviet Union and the United States but rather between the West and East. Some historians have suggested that the evolving positive relations between the Western world and the Eastern world is a historical necessity made imperative and imminent by the changing roles of the two superpowers in world affairs. It has been noted often that the two superpowers are declining empires with receding international clout in economic, cultural and spiritual domains. In terms of raw power, however, they still command the leadership of their two respective blocs. Geopoliticians have also noted that the two superpowers have neither the capacity nor the stamina to police the global order and are showing signs of fatigue and wanting to withdraw from past traditional superpowers prerogatives in international affairs. There are indeed repeated signals from their heartland that attention is increasingly focusing on pressing domestic issues and objectives. Both countries have already over-extended their roles and performances worldwide. Therefore, we have a world where the major power sources are constantly changing. Clearly there is no turning back to the post World War II era which was dominated by two locomotive nations with seemingly inexhaustible capabilities and infinite capacity for perpetual augmentation of power and influence. In such a new world order where the United Nations is showing ever more signs of

impotence in dealing effectively with hard issues and conflicts confronting mankind, it has become necessary to look elsewhere for guidance and motivation to supplement the international work which is already being conducted and performed. In this context it would be most useful to think in terms of recruiting the wisdom and talents of all ex-leaders of the world who can meet a certain criteria of a qualification to act as a body of international "Wise Men" with a mandate to meet quarterly in different regions of the world and to review the international scene and submit new ideas and proposals to deal with the most pressing conflicts and issues confronting man. Although any resolution or recommendation adopted by such a group of eminent and "Wise Men" cannot be made binding and enforceable, still what they may decide will carry considerable weight and have immeasurable clout on existing leaders and governments of the world. The world has already witnessed such experiments in the deployment of elders of various regions in the world performing remarkable successful missions and tasks in the realm of economic and international humanitarian issues. We need a follow-up on such past endeavours with emphasis on political issues. The shortcomings of all such past efforts lies squarely in the fact that they neglected or glossed over the proposition that the basic conflicts and issues of the world today including the political and social ones among them are organically linked with the dominant political dimension of all such matters. In a world such as ours today where countries and peoples are highly politicised it would be sheer fantasy to contemplate the resolution of hard-core international and regional issues and conflicts away from their overriding political dimension. This has been

especially true in dealing with contemporary international humanitarian issues where only some faint references to political will were made as if such a will can be exercised in isolation from the overall political considerations. Also in the realm of economical development and the efforts to bridge the widening gap between the haves and the have nots, not enough attention was paid to the over-embracing political dimension deeply embodied in all such fields. Financing such an ambitious project of having some fifty or so ex-leaders of countries and gather four times yearly would be indeed formidable. The cost of institutionalising such meetings would be in the millions of dollars. Yet one can still entertain the hope that governments would contribute generously to such a world mission where the experiences of their ex-leaders could be put to the optimum use. After all such elders and wise men and women of the world can perform the tasks of an international house of notables with indefinite tenure to serve mankind everywhere.

One remarkable thing about ex-leaders everywhere is that they tend to give counsel and advice markedly different from the one they had previously upheld when in office. It seems that the duties, functions and hardships of high offices tend to scramble ones ideas and views. Acting in isolation from the strains and confining demands of high positions leads to clearer thoughts and brighter visions. This is the very talent which awaits tapping and this is the very human highest resource which could promise humanity everywhere the kind of life that is rightfully his and hers.

Israel warns Palestinians: 1936 had similar start

The following article is reprinted from March 23 issue of the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

By Raja Shehadeh

LAST Saturday night at around midnight, the owners of a boutique on the main street of Ramallah heard the sound of breaking glass. The father and his four adult children went to the boutique, which is close to their home, and found a broken window and signs that someone had entered the shop.

As they approached, the burglar ran upstairs and locked himself in the toilet. They were trying to break open the toilet door when the army arrived.

The soldiers threatened to shoot the boutique owner, but he was undeterred and tried to get hold of the burglar. More soldiers were brought in when neighbouring residents came to the assistance of the storeowner.

Using tear-gas, the army dispersed the crowd, took the burglar and left. The forces of law and order thus saved the law-breaker, asking the store owners for no details about what had happened.

The day before this incident, the Israeli army distributed leaflets in the West Bank telling the population: "You should know that you are the one who is paying the price for the disturbances and disorder... Don't forget, brother, that the events of 1936 and 1948 began in the same way and their heavy price has been paid by generations of Palestinians, to this day."

There were also several warnings from different quarters of the consequences of the resignation of the Arab policemen. It is not surprising, however, that those warnings of the impending catastrophe for the local population that will ensue as a result of the resignations are all Israeli. Are the Palestinians being foolhardy and shortsighted in being unperturbed by the absence of local police?

Israel has ruled the West Bank not only by means of its superior military power but also by perpetrating several myths. Among these are the myths of Israel the liberator and of Israel the modernizer, bringing civilisation and higher, more liberal values to the backward population. But the myth with the greatest currency and longest life, I believe, has been the myth of Israel, protector of the Palestinians.

The assumption on which this myth is based is that the Palestinians in the West Bank are hos-

tages to terror, PLO terror. Israel and its security forces are the "saviours" of the Palestinians. Thus, the term that the official Israeli media use in Arabic for Palestinian freedom fighters (referred to in English in Israel as "terrorists") is "troublemakers" — or more literally, those who wreck or disturb law and order.

Society is divided into "normal" and perverse people who try to make trouble. Israel pursues the perverse ones to make it possible for the others to live normally. Israel is the savior of the majority, who are being held hostage by the perverseness of the minority. Excesses against the minority, therefore, are to be justified because they make normal life for the majority possible by restoring law and order.

This myth has had far-reaching consequences. A large proportion of the over 1,000 "security" decrees which amend local law are justified in their preambles as being necessary for preserving law and order. The Israeli High Court of Justice bases many of its decisions regarding the occupied territories on the grounds that the preservation of law and order and the prevention of terror are overriding duties of the occupier under The Hague Regulations.

What then would happen if law and order and the security of the population were better served in the absence of the police? It would destroy the myth. Superior military might has never on its own been sufficient to enable oppressors to perpetrate their rule. It stands to reason that the military authorities may go to great lengths to prove their point to the local population — that without their law enforcement authorities to preserve law and order, society would be much worse off.

But has the absence of police made a difference? The inadequacy of the police force in serving the interest of the local population has been evident for many years. I remember discussing this several years ago with a high-ranking official responsible for the West Bank military government. His answer was that it was an Arab police force, so if it was failing, this was not the responsibility of the Israelis.

Of course, he knew better. The Israeli authorities did not even design to put the word "police" in Arabic on the station. The sign says "police" in Hebrew and English only.

The Palestinians who were employed as police were essentially footmen who delivered summons

to the local people. When you appealed to them for help, they invariably pointed to their powerlessness. There was a much higher incidence of burglaries that remained unsolved before the local members of the police resigned than there has been since. Traffic has not been any worse.

I may be permitted to use an example close to me, because my later father was a public figure. Despite the fact that over two years have elapsed since his murder, the police have not brought his assailants to justice.

After his death, the Israeli media announced throughout the world that another moderate fell victim to PLO terror. Perhaps the security forces assumed initially that my father's murder was political. But having cited another instance in support of the myth of PLO terror and the hostage population, they preferred not to disturb this evidence in support of the myth when they discovered — as they did very early on — that what they assumed was not true.

There is very good reason now to believe that the police know more than they were willing to divulge. Why would the police not cooperate in uncovering a murder? Because police were never there to safeguard the interests of the local Palestinian population. The legitimate objective of preserving law and order was only a peg on which was hung all that was convenient for Israel to bring about regarding changes in the law and government which would serve entirely different purposes. The police, by their absence, encouraged corruption and acted as the protector of the corrupt.

The "burglar" who came to the boutique in Ramallah carried two narrow sacks, presumably in which to pack women's dresses. He chose the most visible store in town to break into so that the message would be clear to all: Without the police, burglaries will be commonplace. The army patrol is usually absent from the streets at night. How they managed to come so quickly to his aid, and why they were so interested in saving him and asked no questions of the owners to ascertain the facts (as should be expected of the authority there to preserve law and order) makes one wonder, to put it mildly.

So far, evidence points to the fact that the Palestinian community will prevent the common crimes that usually become frequent in times of chaos.

But 1988 is not 1936

The following article is reprinted from the Israeli newspaper, The Jerusalem Post.

By Yehuda Litani

TENS OF thousands of leaflets have been distributed during the past two weeks by the IDF in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip aimed at the intifada leadership. One of the leaflets read: "1936 equals 1988," referring to the 1936-1939 protests or what the Palestinians then called "The Arab Revolt."

Is it proper to compare the 1936-39 protests with the 1987-88 intifada? The riots of the 1930s were directed both against the British government and the Jewish community and its leadership. The intifada is an uprising of the Palestinian inhabitants of the territories against Israelis, against the Israeli occupation and against Israelis inside the pre-1967 borders. Now the Israelis have replaced the British government, they are the only target of the intifada.

Many events that took place then are reminiscent of what's happening today: Setting fire to the fields and forests, stoning and throwing petrol bombs at cars, setting up roadblocks, cutting down fruit trees, damaging chicken coops, etc.

But then it was different in many other aspects: During the violence of the 1930s, there were organised Palestinian Arab groups, especially in the Nablus, Jenin and Hebron areas, which regularly attacked both British troops and Jewish settlements. Not only the groups, but also many Arab civilians in towns and villages had arms and used them frequently against Jewish settlements and civilians. During the past six months of the intifada, there have been only a very few cases in which arms have been used by Palestinians against Israelis.

But what the writers of the leaflet "1936 equals 1988" really meant was that the first six months of general strike of the Arab Revolt were followed by bloody, Arab internecine battles, during which thousands were killed. What was the outcome of the revolt for the Palestinians? Besides a bitter split, they failed to prevent the continued growth and development of the Jewish community, which led 10 years later to the establishment of the state of Israel.

During the first period of Arab attacks on Jewish settlements in 1936, the immediate Jewish reaction was surprise and fear. But

after a month or so, the main Jewish defence organisation, the Haganah, recovered from the initial shock and started initiating new tactics of defence and attack that often surprised the Palestinians.

The three years of Arab Revolt were a trial by battle for the Haganah. The Haganah's experience laid the basis for the IDF, which nine years later won the war against the Palestinians and seven other Arab armies.

The Palestinian Arab's main demand from the British government was to stop Jewish immigration. But the British were almost forced to approve additional quotas of immigration certificates. There was a need for more working hands in the country to replace those Arabs who went on strike. Only toward the end of the revolt did the British government decide to stop all Jewish immigration to Palestine. But this had very little to do with the revolt. Rather, World War II had already started, and the British wanted the support of the Arab World in its war against the Germans and its allies.

The Arab Revolt (or in Hebrew, *haneqmat* — the Events) encouraged the creation of an independent economic Jewish infrastructure. When the Jaffa port was closed, the new Tel Aviv port was opened. In short, the revolt forced the Jewish community to overcome the difficulties by developing its own independent military and economic infrastructure.

This lesson of the revolt of the 1930s — the more the Arabs tried to stop our development, the more we succeeded in developing — is still imprinted deeply in the minds of many Israelis. But it is 52 years later and we have had an independent state for more than 40 years. We have a strong army and a fairly developed economic infrastructure.

The occupation of the territories has continued now for more than 21 years. The outcome of the intifada may very well be the further weakening of the Palestinian economic infrastructure, but it could not mean, at the same time, the immediate strengthening of the Israeli economic infrastructure, as happened some 50 years ago.

So what then was the meaning of the leaflets saying, "1936 equals 1988"? That the Palestinians may lose the battle, just like they lost it in the 1930s and the 1940s. What can they lose now? Their lands? More than 50 per cent of the land in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is in one way or another under Israeli control.

Can the Palestinians in the territories lose their political freedom or their right of expression? Or was there a hidden message in the flyer that if the intifada continues, there is a danger that some — or many — Palestinians may be expelled?

All that has to do with propaganda or psychological warfare. But what is the lesson or lessons that Israelis may learn from the past six months of intifada? Can we really benefit from it just like the Jewish community in Palestine did during the Arab Revolt?

For the past 21 years, we have been heavily dependent on cheap Arab labour. This is especially true in the construction and food industries and in agriculture. Aside from any political considerations of hawks and doves in Israeli society, a continuation of the intifada may mean that we — like the Jews of 1936 — may have to learn to live without the convenient services of our next door neighbours.

It may force the construction and food industries and agriculture to use fewer workers but more modern technology. In addition, in case of an economic crisis in the territories, some of our industries may have to look for new markets to replace the "easy" markets of the West Bank and Gaza. In order to compete in the European or American markets, Israeli industry will have to improve its product. Better products and a higher demand for Israeli goods in international markets could thus result from the intifada.

What is clear is that after more than six months, the intifada is not dying out. Rather, it is taking different shapes and forms. Every now and then, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir or Chief of Staff Dan Shomron may calm us down by saying that the intifada is just about to disappear and a day or two later, as if to answer them, Palestinian youths increase their activities: More people are killed, more petrol bombs are thrown, more forests and fields are set on fire.

The intifada will seemingly continue into the foreseeable future. As long as the Palestinian inhabitants of the territories feel deprived of their basic rights, the uprising will continue. Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin also thinks that the Arabs should learn from their failures in the past (1936-39, 1948) not to repeat the same mistakes. They must stop their uprising. Only after they stop the intifada will Rabin be ready to "talk business" with them.

Palestinians assert their cause in U.S. west coast

By Kathleen Christison

THE STORE has a large selection of books in Arabic and English and an array of other items: kufiyas, Palestinian embroidery, sweatshirts with "Palestine" emblazoned in Arabic or English, maps, tapes of Arabic language and music. The store is busy as I sit for an hour or so and talk with Asad Salama, a co-owner. The phone rings often, and there are the first signs of a run on kufiyas, which have suddenly become fashionable throughout the United States.

This bookstore serves an Arab community of about 40,000 in the San Francisco Bay area. The Palestinian community is perhaps half this total — 10,000 in San Francisco itself, another 10,000 or so elsewhere in the Bay area. Asad himself is a Palestinian. He came here as a teenager with his parents in 1966. They have since returned to their West Bank village, although only as visitors because the Israelis will not give them residence permits in the land of their birth. Asad cannot go back at all; he is politically active and outspoken enough for him to be certain the Israelis would deny him even a visitor's permit.

"I am very much a Palestinian," Asad says, "although I have lived here longer than there. Most Palestinians put emphasis on their Palestinian identity in reaction to oppression. It's not national chauvinism, it's a reaction to attempts to destroy our national identity." Does he ever worry that the Palestinians, being dispersed, will disappear as a people? "I have been worried: there was Tel al-Zatar, 1948, 1967. But I admire the resilience of the young people facing an army with stones. If this proves anything, it proves our will to survive. When I see this, I'm very optimistic."

I sense a defiance among San Francisco's Palestinians, of which Asad's attitude is typical. The mood seems different in other American cities. Palestinians in Los Angeles, for instance are worried; this is, after all, where Alex Odeh was killed by a bomb in his American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee office in October 1985, and it is where seven Palestinians and the Kenyan wife of one of them — the L.A. Eight — were arrested in January 1987. In Houston, the Palestinian community seems elated — exultant and almost unbelieving that the uprising has lasted so long.

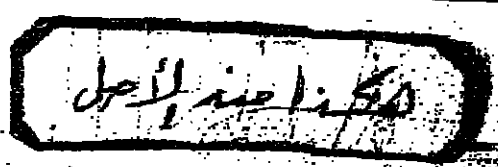
San Francisco, on the other hand, is defiant, ready to stand up and say, "the more you oppress us and try to ignore us, the more we will persevere." Or perhaps it is just a progression. Perhaps when I was in Los Angeles it was too early in the uprising for elation, in Houston too early for defiance. By spring, defiance is clearly the mood in San Francisco.

The optimism that accompanies this mood unfortunately does not extend much beyond the Arab community. Across the bay from San Francisco in Berkeley, the city council is voting on a proposal to adopt Jabalya refugee camp in Gaza as a sister city. Berkeley already has other sister cities, among them a town in Nicaragua, which says quite a bit about the general tenor of Berkeley's politics; it is usually a bastion of liberalism famous for its 1960s anti-war, anti-establishment protests. But the spirit of liberalism is on its deathbed where Palestinians are concerned. The Jabalya proposal is deemed to have no chance of passing. The nine councillors explained their position at some length before voting. Most, including Mayor Loni Hancock, take the position that because this proposal is polarising the community, they must vote against it. The city cannot live with a 5-4 vote, one

councillor says. In the event, the resolution is defeated 6-3. One of the votes "for" has been expected; the other two are whose consciences have obviously been bothering them but who vote. The two Palestinians I am with react in different ways. Abid is delighted at the two extra votes, but Raif is angry. "It's not enough," he mutters. He is one of the defiant ones.

Hashim Mahamid, the mayor of the Israeli Arab town of Umm Al Fahm, arrives in San Francisco on a speaking tour the night of the Berkeley vote. His visit is a nice counterpoint to the Berkeley decision — a reminder that the Palestinian problem can no longer be rationalised away. Mahamid is a strapping man in his mid-40s. He is bitter and does not smile easily. He regales a group of us with chapter and verse on Israeli treatment of its Arab citizens. Palestinian citizens make up 17 per cent of Israel's population but receive only one per cent of its housing budget, less than 3 per cent of its allocations to local officials. Umm Al Fahm has lost 126,000 of the 146,000 dunams of land it owned in 1948 to Israeli confiscation, while its population has increased eightfold.

Mahamid makes no secret of his attitude and his bitterness, and I am appalled that Israelis were apparently so totally out of touch with their Palestinian fellow citizens that they were actually surprised that Israeli Arabs supported the uprising in the occupied territories. "Why should I care about what goes on in the West Bank and Gaza?" Mahamid asks rhetorically, and then answers: "because it is mine." His defiance feeds on and East International, London.



Murphy says Shultz plan is still alive

SANAA (AP) — U.S. envoy Richard Murphy arrived Sunday on the second stop of an eight-state tour after expressing satisfaction in Saudi Arabia that last week's Arab summit conference held in Algiers had "not closed doors" on the U.S. peace plan for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Referring to Israeli refusal to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at peace parleys, Murphy advised the Israelis that there could be no "workable" formula for negotiations if they refused to sit down with any Palestinians.

Murphy made his statements at the end of a three-day stay in the Saudi summer capital of Jeddah where he opened discussion with Arab leaders on "Middle East peace efforts and the Gulf war at meetings with King Fahd and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

The Saudi Press Agency reported the meeting without providing any details on the talks. It only said that Murphy was earlier received by the Saudi foreign minister for a "discussion of the current situation in the region," without elaborating.

Saudi officials have said that Murphy was to discuss the Middle East problem and the peace plan being pushed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in light of the outcome of the recently-concluded Algiers summit. They gave no details on the talks.

Addressing reporters in Jeddah late Saturday following his official talks, Murphy said that based on resolutions issued by the Algiers summit and on statements made by Arab leaders, the United States had concluded that the Shultz peace plan for an Arab-Israeli settlement had not been rejected by Arab states.

"From the American point of view, the most important result of

the Arab summit was that it did not close doors" on the Shultz plan, said Murphy.

Murphy said Arab leaders that Washington talked with were encouraging the United States to keep the Shultz plan going, but he did not name any. He conceded that the plan was "an outline... not a complete plan on how to proceed in terms of a peace process."

"But there is no other... outline on the table," he said. He noted that Shultz "does not dictate to the Arabs, he does not dictate to the Israelis, what position they will bring to the table. He cannot. It would be foolish."

In reply to questions, Murphy said: "I know of no Israeli... who would (talk to) the PLO leadership under the present circumstances."

He added: "It's not just Mr. (Yitzhak) Shamir, it's not just Mr. (Shimon) Peres, it's throughout the whole Israeli political spectrum with the exception perhaps of the small group called 'peace now' on the liberal side."

But he also said: "If the Israelis won't sit down with a certain Palestinian then it's not a workable realistic structure for negotiations."

Murphy acknowledged that the Palestinian uprising had "created a new pride among the Palestinian and perhaps among Arabs generally."

On the Iran-Iraq war, Murphy reaffirmed that the United States was determined to protect U.S.-flagged ships in the international waters of the Gulf, and to offer "distress assistance" to other non-belligerent ships that ask for it.

Murphy's swing will take him to Iraq, which has expressed readiness for an end to its conflict with Iran on the basis of U.N.



Richard Murphy

Security Council Resolution 598 which called for a cease-fire last July, Iran has not accepted the call.

He is also to visit other member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait.

North Yemen controls the entrance to the Red Sea along with South Yemen.

Peres: No coexistence

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Saturday that the "option for coexistence between Jews and Arabs in the (occupied) territories does not exist."

Speaking to members of the World Labour Zionist Movement, Peres said Israel must be "on guard," lest "the toil of generations go to waste" by the turning of the "Jewish state into a Jewish-Arab state."

Peres expressed optimism about "eventual Arab willingness" to negotiate with Israel, saying that just like the Soviets reached un-Soviet conclusions, "the Arabs will reach 'un-PLO conclusions,'" the Jerusalem Post reported.

Peres dismissed the Algiers summit resolutions as "no more than verbiage," according to the Post.

U.S. military sees no change in Iran's strategy in Gulf

By Michael Conlon
Reuters

ABOARD THE USS CORONADO — Recent attacks by Iranian gunboats against shipping in the northern Gulf do not seem to signal a strategy shift in the ongoing tanker war in the region, the commander of U.S. military forces in the area said Saturday.

"There has not been an increase in the use of small boats by Iran for hit-and-run attacks on tankers in the northern Gulf, and the two attacks in that area in the past seven days were probably unrelated," said Rear Admiral Tony Less, commander of the Joint Task Force Middle East.

Less made the comments to members of the U.S. Defence Department news media pool aboard the flagship Coronado in the Gulf.

As he spoke, the year's 40th U.S.-protected convoy of Kuwait tankers flying American flags was in the central Gulf, headed for the Strait of Hormuz and its Iranian Silkorm missile batteries.

The convoy, which left Kuwait early Saturday, consisted of the 290,085-tonne Middletown, the 79,999-tonne Ocean City and the 46,723-tonne Gas King. The first two carry refined oil products while the third vessel transports liquefied petroleum gas.

They sailed under the protection of the guided missile frigate Robert G. Bradley and the destroyer John Hancock, both of which arrived in the Gulf earlier this month.

In addition the convoy appeared to have picked up one hitch-hiker — the Neston, a homeport designation on its stern.

As the convoy sailed south-

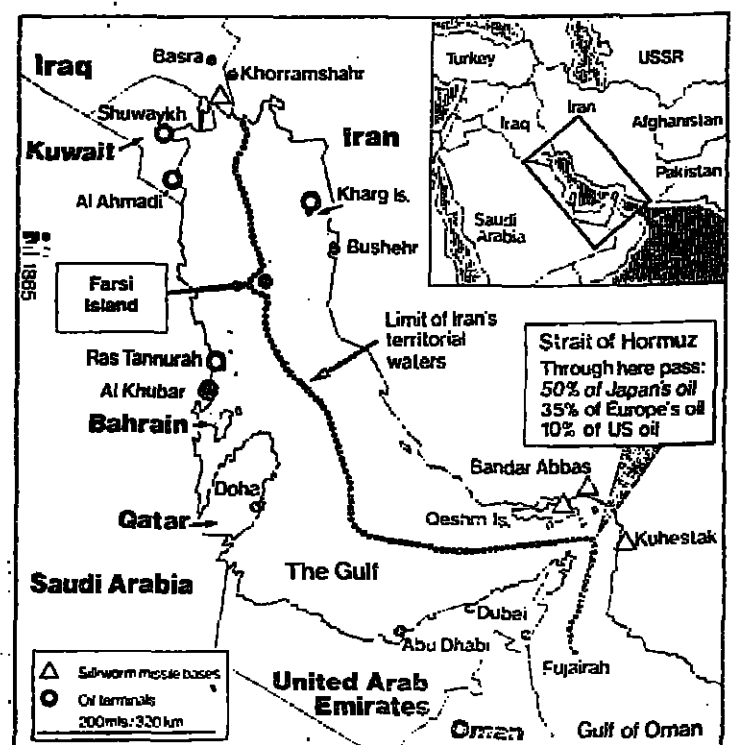
ward, a French warship apparently accompanying a small commercial vessel was on a parallel course in the same direction within eyesight of the U.S. convoy.

Asked if the Iranian gunboat attack on the British-flagged Esso Demetia one week ago and a subsequent attack on the Singapore-registered Neptune Subaru a few days later represented a shift in the battle zone away from the Strait of Hormuz and into the northern part of the Gulf, Less said the two cases were different.

The Demetia, which was attacked just outside of Saudi Arabian territorial waters off Ras Tannurah, "could signify perhaps a change. I'm not sure except that it was on the day of the opening of the OPEC meeting in Vienna and there may have been a signal that was being passed."

The Neptune Subaru, he said, "clearly is not a change. That ship violated territorial waters of a sovereign nation. That sovereign nation took the opportunity to warn."

"I don't know if you have to warn by pumping shells into the side of a vessel. We've seen the



folks at (the Iranian stronghold of) Farsi (Island) do that before. That's certainly not a significant change in terms of policy."

Asked if the navy had detected any increase in Iranian small boat activity in the northern part of the Gulf or any general change in Iranian strategy or tactics in the area, Less said: "No. We haven't."

"Even that particular night (one week ago) there didn't seem to be any significant increase in small boat activity in the area we were looking at," he said.

We haven't seen anything in the way of heightened activity since," he said.

When the Esso Demetia was hit, the nearest U.S. warship was two hours away by sea but the navy dispatched a frigate to offer humanitarian assistance. None was needed.

Less also said the navy had no evidence that Iran has stepped up its deployment of Chinese-made Silkorm missiles in the past two-and-a-half weeks since U.S. officials last gave an assessment of that situation.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel wants compromise Taba talks

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli government decided Sunday to send a top diplomat to Washington for fresh efforts to negotiate a compromise over the Israeli-Egyptian dispute over Taba. Sunday's decision taken by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and two top ministers came as a team of international arbitrators were close to resolving the six-year-long Taba controversy. The ministers resolved that Ronnie Sabel, a legal adviser to the foreign ministry, would fly to the United States this week, to discuss the issue with his American and Egyptian counterparts, Abraham Sofaer and Nabil Al Araby, a foreign ministry official said. Israel has agreed to negotiate a compromise over Taba because Egypt has dropped a condition that Israel acknowledge Egypt's right to the beach, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity. Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid appeared to contradict this claim, however, when he told reporters Saturday in Cairo that his country would accept the decision by the arbitrators.

Awad reaffirms non-violent ideology

ATLANTA (R) — Palestinian-American Mubarak Awad, recently expelled by the Israeli occupation authorities, said Saturday that Israel was wrong to have accused him of advocating the violent overthrow of the Zionist state. "I would never support any violent act. For people who are doing any violent act, that is up to them," he said in accepting an award from the international human rights organisation Amnesty International. Awad, the founder of the Palestinian Centre for the Study of Non-Violence, was jailed and expelled from the occupied territories this month after the occupation authorities accused him of being a leader of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. At an Amnesty meeting in Atlanta, Awad said he supports the uprising but does not advocate the violence that has accompanied it. Awad, who said he supports the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said he continues to advocate separate Israeli and Palestinian states.

Israel to force in Soviet Jews

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli cabinet decided Sunday to force Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate with Israeli visas to travel directly from the Eastern bloc to the Zionist state, and emigration activists said the decision may reduce the influx of Soviet Jews. A senior U.S. embassy official said the decision appeared to contradict the standing United States' position supporting freedom of travel of Soviet Jews. The cabinet said in a statement that it "decided to act, in the framework of legal means available, that Jews who ask for an exit visa from the Soviet Union in order to come to Israel would indeed reach Israel directly." Israeli officials say the decision is aimed at boosting Soviet Jewish emigration and reducing the number of "drop-outs" — Jews who prefer to go to the United States and other western countries instead of Israel. In May, over 90 per cent of immigrants decided to settle elsewhere. According to Israeli officials and media reports, the cabinet decision means that Jews would be required to pick up their visas at the Israeli embassy in Bucharest, Romania.

5 Palestinians go on trial in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Five men charged with killing five Britons and two Sudanese in Khartoum last month told a court Sunday they were Palestinians working for the Arab cause.

"We do not need defence. The Arab people of Sudan will defend us," accused Ibrahim Saleh, 30, told the court in the capital's judiciary complex.

Judge Ahmad Al Bashir said the five faced the death penalty if found guilty.

The Britons, including two children, and two Sudanese — one an army brigadier — were killed May 15 when gunmen machinegunned the Sudan Club and a bomb explosion brought down the dining room roof at the Acropole Hotel.

"You have already passed your verdict which came from number 10 to the prime minister, (Sadeq Al Mahdi), here," Saleh told the judge, referring to the official residence in London of British

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"The trial is a false issue. Why don't you just condemn us to death now?" Saleh said.

Sudanese officials said the five, who identified themselves in court simply as "fighters for the Arab cause," had Lebanese passports and had confessed to being trained in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Police have said they wanted to hear American and British targets in Sudan.

Arab and Western diplomatic sources in Khartoum said they had also confessed to being members of the extremist Abu Nidal Palestinian group believed to have masterminded dozens of such attacks in recent years.

Officials said it was possible that their Lebanese passports were forged.

Commenting on Saleh's outburst, Judge Bashir said he was convinced the five needed de-

fence lawyers and adjourned the case until June 26.

The five men identified themselves as Saleh, Imad Ahmad, 23, Hassan Qasim, 25, Sherif Ezzat, 22 and Mustapha Qasim, 26.

Prosecutor Omar Khairi told the court: "We want a fair trial which matches the charges facing the defendants and the nature of the crimes in question."

Armed police and plainclothes security men ringed the two-storey colonial building where the trial was being held on the ground floor nearly two hours before the case began.

Shortly before 10 a.m. (0800 GMT), the defendants were brought to be building amid tight security measures.

The defendants, all bearded, covered their faces with their hands as each was escorted inside by two armed policemen.

One defendant dropped one hand to make a "V"-for-victory sign as he passed journalists.

Four Palestinians wounded

(Continued from page 1)

blamed on arsonists acting as part of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Cabinet ministers asked at their weekly meeting for Israelis to "help all bodies that deal with extinguishing and preventing fires" following 2,500 blazes since early May that destroyed more than 25,000 acres of trees and pasture land, a government communiqué said.

The army shut two schools in the West Bank and one in the Gaza Strip Sunday after student protests erupted, military government spokesmen said, adding that a fourth school was closed Saturday.

An Israeli spokesman said the schools affected there were in Tubas, Al Khader and in the 'Ain Al Sultan refugee camp near Jericho. He said they would be closed "several days" and refused to elaborate.

Meanwhile, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was reported holding secret meetings with Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories.

Rabin's latest meeting with Palestinians was with an author of the Palestinian national charter, a platform of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which fails to recognise the Zionist state, the daily Haaretz reported. It did not name the man.

Rabin's spokesman, Eitan Haber, refused to comment on the report. But he confirmed in a telephone interview that Rabin was holding a series of meetings

with Palestinian leaders.

"He's trying to create a dialogue, to ask what is happening and about the future, what they suggest" as solutions, Haber said, declining to elaborate.

An official who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Rabin had decided against publishing the names of Palestinian leaders who met him.

Israel views the 33-article PLO covenant, written in the mid-1960s, as proof the PLO is bent on destroying the Zionist state because they say it claims that Israel was established illegally and Jewish ties to the Holy Land were incompatible with history.

An official quoted by Reuters said defence ministry officials knew the man helped formulate the covenant. Rabin would continue to meet Palestinians of varying political views, including known members of the PLO, to discuss ways of ending the uprising, the official said.

Sources told Haaretz the meetings between Rabin and the Palestinians aimed to provide a basis for talks on a political solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Haim Kaufman, head of the rightist Likud Bloc's parliamentary faction, Sunday demanded Rabin stop the meetings. He said they would lay a framework for talks with the PLO.

Rabin will travel to the United States next week to hold talks on U.S. military aid. An aide said he would probably also discuss his recent meetings with Palestinians.

Iran sees better ties

(Continued from page 1)

the politicians in the hope of improving relations and helping free church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and Belfast teacher Brian Keenan.

"There's no feeling that the Iranians came cap-in-hand to us. But they have made it clear that they want to hold talks with us," the spokeswoman told Reuters.

Relatives of the hostages welcomed the mission but the trip prompted warnings Saturday that the lawmakers might be exploited by Iran.

The Foreign Office stressed that the government was not sponsoring the trip, which was organised through the office of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, spiritual head of the Church of England.

The mission was expected to last three days.

Conservative legislator Peter Temple-Morris, said: "It is vital, I think, that they (the lawmakers) are fully aware of the fact that they do not control the situation into which they are going, they will inevitably be exploited, and that exploitation will be part of the power struggle that's going on within Iran at the present time."

Lord Tordoff, one of the delegates, said he was uncertain who was financing the trip, but added: "We will ensure that we will allow ourselves to be used as little as possible."

Tordoff and fellow delegates Thomas Clarke, Cyril Townsend and Robert Hicks, expect to meet senior Iranian officials.

A Tehran Radio report said an envoy of Runcie met Mehdi Karubi, deputy speaker of the Iranian parliament, Saturday and delivered a message from Runcie for Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The broadcast said that the letter "expressed hope that efforts for the release of Iranian and British hostages in Lebanon will be fruitful."

Rebels capture Iranian town

(Continued from page 1)

Reuters that the Mehran battle was "the first fundamental lesson to Khomeini's faltering regime which will derive no benefit from appointing Rafsanjani."

The Iraq News Agency, quoting Iraq's Minister of Information Latif Nasif Jassim denied that any Iraqi army troops were involved in the Mehran offensive. It said all the attackers were Iranian members of the NLA.

The NLA statement said the Mehran offensive, named "Forty Stars," was the largest operation yet undertaken by NLA forces involving 22 brigades of combat and support troops.

It said NLA fighters took on two Iranian divisions in the offensive, including the 16th Iranian army division, said by Western diplomats in Baghdad to be one of the best trained and equipped in the Iranian armed forces.

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Laenderbank looks to viable investment projects in Jordan

By Salameh Ne'matt
Jordan Times economics correspondent

AMMAN — Laenderbank, Austria's third-largest banking group now commands 25 per cent of Austria's share in the Arab market and is planning further expansion, Laenderbank's regional representative Ernest Liniger, announced Sunday.

"We are constantly trying to increase our business in the Middle East," Liniger told a press conference. He said the Amman office undertakes to supply information on investment opportunities and potential joint venture projects in the region to Austrian companies that deal with Laenderbank.

By offering this marketing and promotion service to Austrian companies, Liniger said, the bank helps pinpoint areas of viable investments in the area.

He added that Laenderbank can also be of assistance to Jordan through facilitating Jordanian exports to European markets, mainly of fertilizer products and vegetables.

"We are trying to do more than what other banks are doing," he told the press conference. "We feel the need to come up with

the press conference, said that there was a close cooperation and coordination between visiting Austrian trade delegations and Austrian banks. The state has 53 per cent of the shares of Laenderbank.

Laenderbank has helped finance several projects in Jordan, including building the Jordan Television centre, the hangar at the Queen Alia International Airport and cooperation in the field of transport.

Liniger said there was a possibility of barter business between Jordan and Austria, similar to a barter agreement worth \$130 million signed last March with Egypt.

"I see no reason why this cannot be done here," he said. "It could even be more attractive."

He said that with a good marketing outlook and a feasibility study, "it would be easy to find financiers in Europe."

On Jordanian farm exports, the Laenderbank representative said the quality of Jordanian agricultural products were in line with European quality and packaging standards.

Helmut Puchas, the Austrian embassy's assistant to the commercial counsellor, who attended

CBJ deputy governor points to solid banking industry

The following is the second of four articles on Jordan's economic potential published by the Asian Wall Street Journal to coincide with a visit by a Jordanian delegation, headed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to Japan last month.

JORDAN's banking system is considered one of the best developed and most solid in the Middle East. Dr. Maher Shukri, deputy governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, points with satisfaction to an average 18 per cent growth in the banking industry and a 12.5 per cent increase in the money supply since mid-1987.

"I feel very positive about changes in the economy in the past eight months. The balance of trade has improved nicely. Exports increased 12 per cent in volume and seven per cent in price terms. Last year, imports declined by four per cent. And we expect the 1987 rate of growth in GNP to be about three per cent, compared with 2.5 per cent in 1986. So we're moving slowly but surely toward better performance," Dr. Shukri says.

Commercial bank deposits are still increasing steadily. At the end of 1987 they totalled JD 2.14 billion (\$6.2 billion), up from JD 1.94 billion in December 1986. Interest rates are high, there is zero inflation, and savings are rising substantially, the central bank official says.

Dr. Shukri terms Jordanian banks' assets adequate and notes that the central bank has been more strict on provisioning for non-performing loans in port-

folios in the last two years.

One sign of healthy growth in the banking industry is the rise in commercial bank credit facilities. These increased from JD 1.39 billion at the end of 1986 to JD 1.51 billion at the end of 1987.

Dr. Shukri wants the banks to play a more active role in promoting development.

"The central bank follows policies that encourage banks to lend more to industry and productive ventures through medium-term instruments," he says. Jordan's bankers have a reputation for being very cautious, and they and the private sector are waiting to see if the recent upward trend in business continues before they start increasing investments.

Help in speeding mobilisation of savings for investment is coming from an array of new instruments, such as certificates of deposit, corporate bonds and syndicated loans. Also, development of the Amman Financial Market since 1978 has improved the financial situation, and a secondary market for government bonds has just been created.

Over the past 10 years, there has been a shift from financing commercial operations to more productive operations. The share of commercial financing dropped from about 50 per cent to 22 per cent in this period, and increased loans are going to industry, construction, transportation and private enterprises.

"We want to build a commercial and investment base for the banks. If Jordan develops new economic relations with Japan, the U.S. and Europe, this will justify investments in high-tech industries, which is what the government wants. Most of our banks are computerised, and if we become part of a global business network, these banks will add expensive new technical capacities such as data linkages with the rest of the world," Dr. Shukri says. "But this has to be based on a higher level of business generated with other countries."

Jordan's commercial banks are supporting development by participating in syndicated loans.

More and more Jordan banks are changing their approach to commercial lending and assessing risk based on the nature of pro-

jects. Dr. Shukri points out that industrial borrowing in the form of loans requires monitoring. Banks have to get prior central bank approval on loans exceeding JD 500,000.

The banking official further notes that, by law, banks cannot lend more than 25 per cent of their capital to one customer. The minimum amount of capital every bank in Jordan must have is JD 5 million. This minimum was increased from JD 3 million in recent years by the central bank.

"We raised the percentage of capital and reduced the minimum allowed for lending to give more control of quality and destination of credit," Dr. Shukri explains.

To expand technological investment in Jordan requires not only venture capital, but the participation of specialised credit institutions, of which the country has several. These include the Village and Rural Loan Bank, which has a venture capital window for rural-area projects.

Another is the Housing Bank, which was established in 1973 by Zuhair Khouri, chairman and director-general of the bank. Its first priority is lending to low-income people for home-building, and it concentrates on the domestic market.

Since its beginning, the Housing Bank has evolved into a full-service bank which now lends for construction of flats, and commercial buildings, and for a wide range of activities, provided it gets a 100 per cent guarantee.

"We're very open to lending for any project that will have a good effect on the country's economic growth," says Khouri. "We own about 15 per cent of the shares in the Industrial Development Bank of Jordan, which provides credit for industry, tourism and small scale enterprise."

Total assets of the bank stand at some JD 482 million. With 83 branches in Jordan, it has four times more than any other bank in the country.

Jordanians own about 34 per cent of the assets, divided between the public and private sectors, and, Khouri says more Jordanians have been buying shares lately.

Ordinary shares of JD 1 million are owned by the government and the central bank. About 50 per cent of the bank's total capital is owned by Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Iran.

The Housing Bank is a big shareholder in Jordan's two cement factories and has shares in other industries and banks.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for June 19, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	398941	JD 273412	341
Top three companies:			
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing, and Publishing	139050	JD 84290	79
Daroo Investment and Housing	68075	JD 31154	39
Arab Bank	210	JD 23960	4
Parallel market:	42788	JD 18378	—
Development bonds:	230	JD 2427	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Jordan Gulf Bank to give 6% dividend

By Salameh Ne'matt

AMMAN — The Jordan Gulf Bank has announced it will distribute six per cent in dividends to its shareholders after a JD 406,000 reserve for doubtful debts reduced 1987's total profit from over JD 666,000 to JD 259,000.

The bank's deposits in 1987 increased by JD 12 million of which JD 7 million were employed in good collateral credit facilities in addition to JD 1.5 million in government treasury bills and development bonds which enjoy tax exemptions.

The Jordan Gulf Bank also increased their deposits in other

banks by JD 1.7 million. Balance sheet figures as of year-end 1987 (excluding letters of credit, guarantees and draft acceptances) increased by 10.3 per cent with the total balance sheet at JD 120.4 million in 1987 compared to JD 109.2 million the year before.

Total revenues reached JD 10.6 million compared to JD 9.9 million in 1986, a 6.3 per cent increase. The bank's expenditure rose from JD 9.3 million in 1986 to JD 9.9 million last year.

According to the bank's balance sheet published Sunday, the shareholders' equity increased by JD 177,894, from JD 9,110,000 in 1986 to JD 9,288,000 by year-end 1987.

Japanese industrialists visit potash company

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of a Japanese company, considered as a major importer of Jordanian potash met here Saturday with Arab Potash Company (APC) Director General Ali Nsour to discuss future imports and joint ventures.

A report in Al Rai' Arabic daily said that Nsour briefed the visitors on the development of the company and its plants situated near the southern tip of the Dead Sea.

The head of the delegation voiced his company's readiness to contribute to the APC's efforts to promote and improve fertiliser production at the Aqaba fertiliser plant so that the output can be exported to Japan.

The delegation had earlier visited the APC plants and the potash export harbour at the Red Sea port of Aqaba.

According to the report Jordan will this year export 50,000 tonnes of potash to Japan.

Committee begins buying local cereals from farmers

KARAK (Petra, J.T.) — A government-appointed committee to purchase locally produced cereals from Jordanian farmers has embarked on its mission at a centre set up for the purpose at Rabbeh town in Karak governorate.

The committee is buying wheat from farmers at the rate of JD 144 a tonne, barley for JD 90, lentils for JD 180 and chick-peas at the rate of JD 170 a tonne.

Earlier this month, Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi said that the country was expected to produce some 80,000 tonnes of wheat and 25,000 tonnes of barley during this season in view of the good amounts of rain in the past winter season.

The Ministry of Agriculture, following on previous arrangements, has set up committees in different regions to purchase cereals from farmers at subsidised prices in a bid to encourage them to double their efforts on the land, Lawzi said.

The ministry, he said, set up the centres at Jweidh, in the central regions, at Rabbeh in the south and at Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley regions.

Lawzi, who is chairman of the ministry's central committee supervising the purchase operations, said that farmers have to produce a certificate of origin for their produced cereals, the areas where they were grown and the quantity offered for sale before transactions are concluded.

Chinese firms start layoffs

PEKING (R) — State firms are laying off some of their over-inflated workforces as China holds its first public debate on the sensitive problem of unemployment, the official press reported Sunday.

But the sacked workers are accusing the bosses of "exploitation" and "anti-communism."

People's Daily said 90 state firms in Shanghai had moved 3,000 workers from their posts and put them in different jobs at lower pay, with the worst hit getting 60 per cent of their original pay for a fixed period after which they are sacked.

The dismissals had instilled a sense of crisis in the remaining workers, helped to raise productivity and put an end to "blind confusion" in work places, it said.

Sunday's article is the latest in a series on the delicate question of unemployment. As in other communist countries, China promises employment to everyone.

But People's Daily admitted last week that up to 30 million people out of the urban work force of 130 million had nothing to do and passed time on the job playing poker or chess, watching television or bicycle racing.

"China has hidden unemployment because improvements in productivity have made people superfluous," the Economic Daily declared Friday.

Turkish Islamic banks forge ahead

ISTANBUL (R) — Saudi Arabian-backed Islamic finance houses are forging ahead in Turkey despite an economic slowdown and accusations that they aim to undermine the secular state, bankers say.

The two finance houses have captured 1.8 per cent of Turkish savings deposits in their first three years and are still growing far faster than traditional competitors, 1987 accounts showed.

"Things are going well, and only for economic reasons. We're less expensive and more speedy," said Yalcin Oner, general manager of the 80 per cent Saudi-owned Al Baraka Turkish Finance House.

Al Baraka Turk plan to complete expansion to five branches by the end of 1988 and Thin-corporated (FFI) has already done so.

A third Islamic finance house with Kuwaiti capital is due to be authorised within months, Islamic banking sources say.

"Our future is really bright," FFI Acting General Manager Yunus Nacar told Reuters, predicting a doubling of deposits at FFI to 200 billion lira (\$140 million) in 1988.

The finance houses are relatively small and tight central

bank control means little chance of a repeat of Egypt's unregulated, multi-billion-dollar Islamic banking problems, Western bankers say.

But the houses, permitted to open in 1983 by the first decree of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's government and licensed last year to open a maximum five branches, are still controversial.

Spreading Islam
"They back forces prepared to change our secular state and replace it with an Islamic society," said Ugur Mumcu, senior columnist for the left-wing Cumhuriyet daily.

Mumcu told Reuters that Islamic bookshops and newspapers received soft loans. He repeated charges made in his latest book that they were linked to a secret society to spread Islam.

But some loans for Islamic-oriented projects, advertisements placed in right-wing, pro-Islam newspapers and branch offices in the deeply religious central city of Konya were justified to attract depositors, Islamic bankers say. "These institutions are mainly financial institutions," FFI's Nacar said.

An FFI manager, who declined to be named, said "an Islamic

republic would be a nightmare for us. It is unrealistic. People don't understand that in Turkey, Islam is not fundamentalist."

Islamic observances and joint prayers at Friday lunchbreak are quickly apparent at the Islamic finance houses, which cooperate but do not mount joint projects.

Scarcely shrouded the heads of the few women employees. Maps show Turkey as part of the Middle East, not Europe, and there are none of the usual pictures of Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey who swept away the Ottoman Islamic caliphate in 1923.

But in the finance houses' modern offices, executives calculate profit margins on computers programmed to compensate for inflation and market interest levels as well as Islamic "interest-free" principles.

"We have to compare ourselves," Al Baraka Turk's Oner told Reuters, adding that he paid depositors slightly more and charged borrowers slightly less than commercial banks.

Green apples
"Selling money is like selling apples. There are red and green, but they taste the same and I have to charge the same," the FFI manager said.

Yemens to set up joint oil firm

SANAA (R) — North and South Yemen are to set up a joint venture to invest in oil exploration and development, the North Yemen news agency Saba said. South Yemen Energy Minister Saleh Abubaker Ibn Hussain and North Yemen Oil Minister Ahmad Ali Al Muhani agreed to set up the joint Yemen Oil Company for Investments and Mineral Resources, the agency said. The two ministers met in the border town of Taiz.

Oil has been found in the south at Shabwa and in the north at the Alef field only 200 kilometres away and industry sources say the oil reserve spreads across both states.

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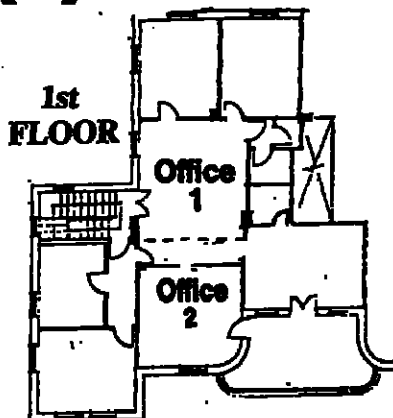
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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Gornik wins Polish Soccer League title

WARSAW (R) — Gornik Zabrze have won Poland's Soccer League title for the fourth consecutive time, completing the programme with a convincing 3-2 victory over bottom club Bałtyk Gdynia. Gornik finished with an 11-point lead over GKS Katowice and 12 points clear of third-placed Legia Warszawa, for whom striker Dariusz Dziekanowski was the league top scorer with 20 goals. The league was widely criticised for being dull and the Polish Soccer Federation has decided to cut the number of first division clubs from 16 to 14, starting with the 1989-90 season.

Yugoslav soccer championship frozen

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav Soccer Federation (YSF) has frozen results of last week's final league round pending an investigation into allegations of match rigging. It is the third year in a row that the league has been disrupted by a match rigging scandal. A special YSF commission will investigate the Red Star Belgrade-Sutjeska Niksic and Celik Zenica-Pristina matches after allegations in the Yugoslav media of irregularities. Red Star Belgrade drew 2-2 with Sutjeska Niksic to finish one point ahead of arch-rivals Partizan Belgrade in the standings. But Sutjeska have appealed to the YSF, claiming that Star's second goal was scored from an off-side position. The YSF will also investigate Celik Zenica's 3-2 win over Pristina. Celik scored three goals in the last three minutes to avoid relegation. Their goals were scored after all the other league results were already known.

Lewis may run 200m in West Germany

TAMPA, Florida (R) — A clocking of 19.99 seconds by Carl Lewis in the 200 metres at a meeting in Houston Friday night has the quadruple Olympic gold medalist thinking about running the event in Europe this month. "I talked to him today and he was very pleased with the time," Lewis' trainer Tom Tellez said at the U.S. National Athletics Championships Saturday. "He may now decide to run a 200 in Germany on June 28." The time was the third fastest in the world this year. American Lorenzo Daniel has the fastest — 19.87 seconds. Lewis will open a brief European campaign with a long jump competition in Lausanne on June 24 and then run a 100 metres in Paris on June 27. "Then he may run a 200 or 100 in Leverkusen, West Germany," Tellez said.

Frenchwoman sets Transatlantic record

NEWPORT (R) — Florence Arthaud of France nearly halved the record for women in the 4,827-km singlehanded Transatlantic race when she landed here Saturday after setting sail from Plymouth, England on June 5. Arthaud, sailing a multihull, completed the race in 13 days 10 hours and 58 minutes eclipsing

the former women's record of 25 days 19 hours 12 minutes set by Dame Naomi James in 1980. The Frenchwoman, who became the fifth woman ever to complete the race, was the seventh finisher in this year's race, which was won in record time by Frenchman Philippe Poupon.

Saceanu lifts Bristol trophy

BRISTOL, England (AP) — Christian Saceanu of West Germany won his first Grand Prix tennis tournament Saturday by taking the Bristol trophy at Redland Green. The 19-year-old beat Indian No. 1 Ramesh Krishnan 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 in one hour 40 minutes to pick up the winner's cheque for \$17,800 (\$10,000). "It's nice to see my name on the winner's list at last," said Saceanu after achieving his second success on grass in England this year, having won the Beckenham tournament two weeks ago. "My game is serve and volley, so I am quite happy on grass," said Saceanu, who is coached by Boris Becker's former mentor, Gunther Bosch. "I've had a lot of close matches this week and I've felt very good." Krishnan, denied the chance to emulate his father Ramanathan, who won the title in 1959, said: "Christian was just too strong for me today."

Soviet player leads chess tourney

BELFORT, France (AP) — Joan Elhvest of the Soviet Union moved to the top of the standings after defeating Britain's Jonathan Speelman in Saturday's fourth round of the World Cup chess challenge. Sweden's Ulf Andersson slipped from second to fourth place after losing to Iceland's Johann Hjartarson, who improved his point total from 0.5 to 1.5. Six other matches all were drawn. The three-week Round-Robin tournament involving 16 grandmasters is the second of six in the new World Cup, which has a total prize money of \$1.2 million.

Racing Club wins Supercup soccer final

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (AP) — Racing Club of Argentina tied 1-1 with Brazil's Cruzeiro Saturday night, giving it enough points to win the finals of the Supercup soccer tournament. Catalan scored for the Argentina team at 43 minutes but Cruzeiro came back to tie at 37 of the second half. Racing Club, winner of the first final 2-1 in Buenos Aires last Monday, tallied three points in the two-game series to take the Joao Havelange Trophy in dispute. The victory was the biggest title in 21 years for the Argentines, who recently returned to play in first division. Cruzeiro used all its offensive pressure with the help of 80,000 roaring fans packed in the Mineirao stadium in this central Brazilian city. But Racing, satisfied with a tie, played a tight defensive game and ventured only a few counterattacks, scoring in one of them.

Oresar in Nabisco tennis final

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia downed unseeded Christer Allgardh of Sweden in aggressive style Saturday to reach the final of the \$123,400 Athens International Nabisco Grand Prix tennis tournament. The 20-year-old sixth seed pounded a series of fluent passing shots from the base-line to romp home against the Swede 6-2, 7-6 in 102 minutes. Allgardh, currently ranked 200 in the world, recovered in the sixth game of the second set, breaking the Yugoslav's serve at love with thundering double-handed backhands. But the slender Swede's game collapsed with Oresar's spectacular cross court shots during a seven-point tie break on the red-clay centre court of the Athens Club.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a good time to plan large projects in detail. Do not try to implement them yet, and don't be discouraged about setbacks. Leave yourself lots of time to think. **ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Analyze your ambitions carefully and make plans for the future. Try to listen more to the ideas of your mate and less to those of fellow workers. **TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) A new contact can bring you fine ideas for greater prosperity in the future. Do not be extravagant where pleasure is concerned. **GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Try to look at an old problem from a new angle. Tonight is not a good evening to entertain. Pay special attention to your mate. **MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be careful of your health today. Clear up a problem with an associate. Do not neglect the condition of your home. **LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Emphasize home improvements this morning. Talk over future plans with family members tonight. **VERGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 23) Contact one who has creative ideas and discuss. Make plans early in day for socializing with friends later. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study an alternative route to success and discuss it with one who can help you. Don't let worry in evening get the better of you. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get an early start today. Trust your own judgment today and try to avoid one who wants to slow you down. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Keep away from the public, and also avoid an extra higher-up. Find a way to delight your mate in the evening. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A clever friend can assist you in fulfilling an important wish. Act confidently, and show off your own wisdom. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A quiet and subtle gain will be made at work. Do not argue with associates. Take a new opportunity in the afternoon. **PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Look to a long-time acquaintance of different background for assistance in gaining an aim in the evening. Avoid depression.

THE Daily Crossword by Sidney L. Robbins

ACROSS

- 1 Digging
- 2 Equipment
- 3 Chin, nurse
- 4 Opulent
- 5 Watery silk
- 6 Marquis de
- 7 Noun suffix
- 8 Standby
- 9 Bede
- 10 Pro vote
- 11 Hung, dog
- 12 Verifies
- 13 Open to question
- 14 Enraged
- 15 Copy
- 16 Rink stuff
- 17 Youth up
- 18 Entry
- 19 Parent
- 20 Baby buggy
- 21 Pope
- 22 Escort
- 23 Offensive
- 24 Town city
- 25 Haul
- 26 Varnish
- 27 Ingredient
- 28 Knightly title
- 29 Tiny
- 30 Meaningful name
- 31 Entice
- 32 Faction
- 33 Smith at times
- 34 Facilitate
- 35 No Na
- 36 Cupid's aim
- 37 Comprehend
- 38 Soviet city
- 39 Machine
- 40 Canine
- 41 Martellique mount
- 42 Presenta
- 43 Serf of old
- 44 Ornament
- 45 Undisturbed at sleep
- 46 Poet's word
- 47 Keen
- 48 Manhandle
- 49 Increase
- 50 Call for attention
- 51 Depart
- 52 Dense growth
- 53 Clearing
- 54 Sows edges
- 55 Location
- 56 Initiate
- 57 Paddle
- 58 Pinnae
- 59 Sage
- 60 City on Bay
- 61 Like some agents
- 62 Mc Thompson
- 63 Flower spike
- 64 Cut grass
- 65 Objected
- 66 Agitate
- 67 Observations
- 68 Disenumber
- 69 Gob
- 70 Ancient
- 71 Ascetic
- 72 Broad ends
- 73 Uncouth boor
- 74 Hides away
- 75 Arab gulf
- 76 Glorioso
- 77 Male ant
- 78 Ullrich
- 79 Baden Baden
- 80 Hides away

DOWN

- 1 Tez, school
- 2 Unusual
- 3 Apolitical
- 4 Unsettled
- 5 Poet's word
- 6 Keen
- 7 Manhandle
- 8 Increase
- 9 Call for attention
- 10 Depart
- 11 Dense growth
- 12 Clearing
- 13 Sows edges
- 14 Location
- 15 Initiate
- 16 Paddle
- 17 Pinnae
- 18 Sage
- 19 City on Bay
- 20 Like some agents
- 21 Mc Thompson
- 22 Flower spike
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- 35 Glorioso
- 36 Male ant
- 37 Ullrich
- 38 Baden Baden
- 39 Hides away

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Digging 2. Equipment 3. Chin, nurse 4. Opulent 5. Watery silk 6. Marquis de 7. Noun suffix 8. Standby 9. Bede 10. Pro vote 11. Hung, dog 12. Verifies 13. Open to question 14. Enraged 15. Copy 16. Rink stuff 17. Youth up 18. Entry 19. Parent 20. Baby buggy 21. Pope 22. Escort 23. Offensive 24. Town city 25. Haul 26. Varnish 27. Ingredient 28. Knightly title 29. Tiny 30. Meaningful name 31. Entice 32. Faction 33. Smith at times 34. Facilitate 35. No Na 36. Cupid's aim 37. Comprehend 38. Soviet city 39. Machine 40. Canine 41. Martellique mount 42. Presenta 43. Serf of old 44. Ornament 45. Undisturbed at sleep 46. Poet's word 47. Keen 48. Manhandle 49. Increase 50. Call for attention 51. Depart 52. Dense growth 53. Clearing 54. Sows edges 55. Location 56. Initiate 57. Paddle 58. Pinnae 59. Sage 60. City on Bay 61. Like some agents 62. Mc Thompson 63. Flower spike 64. Cut grass 65. Objected 66. Agitate 67. Observations 68. Disenumber 69. Gob 70. Ancient 71. Ascetic 72. Broad ends 73. Uncouth boor 74. Hides away 75. Arab gulf 76. Glorioso 77. Male ant 78. Ullrich 79. Baden Baden 80. Hides away

Myricks gets his bronze medal after nine months

TAMPA, Florida (R) — Three-time Olympian Larry Myricks received a standing ovation an hour before he won an emotional 200 metres race Saturday at the U.S. National Championships.

The cause for the first celebration was his long jumping ability. His speed earned him the second.

Nine months after he competed in the scandal-ridden long jump final in the World Championships, Myricks finally was presented with the bronze medal many thought he had won in Rome.

He received the medal at a special ceremony at the University of Tampa, then he led from start to finish in winning the 200 metres in 20.50 seconds to the roar of the crowd of 6,256.

"This is not the Olympic stadium (in Rome), but here in Tampa I guarantee there are a lot more people that I consider my friends," Myricks said during the ceremony.

Myricks, who hopes to compete in Seoul in both the long jump and 200 metres, didn't learn until Thursday that he would receive his long-awaited medal at the U.S. Championships.

He thought he had won the medal on the runway at Rome, but Italian officials conspired to ensure that Italian Giovanni Evangelisti received the third-place medal by giving him a better measurement on his last jump that he should have received.

Pate grabs Hoylake tennis title

WEST KIRBY, England (R) — Christo van Rensburg, who conjured up the defeats of Wimbledon seeds John McEnroe and Andrei Chesnokov, ran out of tricks in the final of the Hoylake Invitation Grasscourt Tournament Saturday.

The unseeded Van Rensburg, who performs conjuring tricks as a hobby, was beaten 7-6, 6-4 by American David Pate, the world number 26, in one hour 15 minutes.

Pate, the number four seed, won the first-set tie-break 7-5 after every game had gone with service. Then he broke his U.S.-based South African opponent's serve in the first game of the second set.

Van Rensburg, who beat three-times Wimbledon champion McEnroe in the semifinals here, never looked a serious threat in the second set and Pate made sure of the £20,000 (\$35,600) winner's cheque on his third championship point.

Both men now move on to Wimbledon with Pate facing the Swede Ulf Stenlund and Van Rensburg meeting Briton Jeremy Bates in the first round.

Leading players in Wimbledon spotlight

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — A record, a return and a rare opportunity for twin Grand Slams will be the focus of attention at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, which begin a two-week run on Monday.

Martina Navratilova will be seeking her seventh straight women's singles title and ninth overall, which would break the record she shares with Helen Wills Moody. Meanwhile, Steffi Graf and Mats Wilander will each attempt to win their third straight Grand Slam tournament.

But the spotlight may shine brightest on John McEnroe, the three-time Wimbledon champion who is returning to the famed grass courts for the first time since 1985.

McEnroe, the No. 1 player in the world from 1981-85, is in the midst of a well-publicised comeback. He is currently ranked 19th, but his recent play at the French Open — where he gave top-ranked Ivan Lendl a tough battle before losing in the fourth round — indicates he is capable of winning Wimbledon.

McEnroe's fiery temper often

got him into trouble at tradition-conscious Wimbledon, but tournament officials appear happy to have him back. Despite his ranking, they made him the No. 8 seed, paving the way for a desirable draw that should allow him to build momentum in the early rounds.

No one loves Wimbledon more than Navratilova, however.

"I have a chance to rewrite the record books," she said. "I never thought I'd be in that position. I don't expect to win Wimbledon — never have and never will. That's why it's so great when you do."

Last year, Navratilova beat Graf in the final. To win this year's tournament, she will probably have to do it again.

"My goal is not to beat Graf — it's to win Wimbledon," Navratilova said. "I don't need any other motivation."

Graf, who is seeded first ahead of Navratilova, has never won Wimbledon. But the 19-year-old West German is entering the tournament with confidence.

"Last year, I was surprised to make the final," said Graf, who skipped the main warm-up tournament in Eastbourne to practice privately in London. "This year, I can do it. That makes a big difference."

If Graf adds Wimbledon and the U.S. open to her Australian and French Open titles, she would complete the first calendar Grand Slam in women's tennis since Margaret Court accomplished the feat in 1970. Navratilova won the four major titles consecutively in 1983-84, but it was not considered a true Grand Slam because it didn't take place in the same year.

Like Graf, Wilander is halfway to a Grand Slam. But few people expect the baseline specialist to continue his Australian and French Open success at Wimbledon, where the slick surface rewards big serve-and-volleyers.

Becker, who won the title in 1985 and 1986, feels the same way.

Fair rally, skill prevail as European semifinals loom

DUESSELDORF, West Germany (AP) — West Germany and The Netherlands have shrugged off their early lethargy and square off in one semifinal of the European Soccer Championships, while in-form Italy and the Soviet Union meet in the other.

The West Germans and the Dutch, who failed to win their opening games of the tournament, clash in Hamburg's Volksparkstadion Tuesday, while the unbeaten Italians and Soviets face each other in Stuttgart's Neckarstadion a day later.

A place in Saturday's final in Munich's Olympic stadium is at stake for the four teams, which have wasted off the challenges of England, Denmark, Spain and the Irish Republic during eight

days of high-quality soccer played with a refreshingly high standard of fair play.

Although 20 yellow cards have been shown to players in the first 12 games, there have been no dismissals.

Most of the cautions have been for repeated minor fouls and dissent rather than injury-threatening tackles.

England and Ireland returned home without picking up a single yellow card during the first stage games, while semifinalist Netherlands has collected only one.

Worst offenders in the tournament have been the Spaniards, who have collected six, but the Soviets, who arrived with five, have added three more, and six of their players face missing the final if they are cautioned against

Italy. While the foul factor has been comparatively low, the skill and entertainment levels have been high.

Ireland's English manager, Jack Charlton, said the pattern was set by a better-than-expected opening match between Italy and West Germany, who could meet again in the final.

"Both teams played an unusually positive game for an opener, and the tournament has produced more attacking play which is what the fans want to see," Charlton said.

Of the four semifinals, the West Germans and Dutch have recovered from early setbacks, while the Italians and Soviets have shown steady form throughout the competition.

Amman, June 16, 1988

The Spanish Embassy in Amman has a vacancy with the following characteristics:

Vacancy: Administrative staff
Salary: Assigned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain.
Working Hours: Six days, working up to 37 hours weekly

- REQUIREMENTS:**
1. Typewriting in Spanish and Arabic, knowledge of administrative practices.
 2. Sound knowledge of Spanish and Arabic.
 3. Merit. Knowledge of English language.

Petitions should be addressed to the Spanish Embassy and those interested may call at this Mission within twenty days as from the above mentioned date.

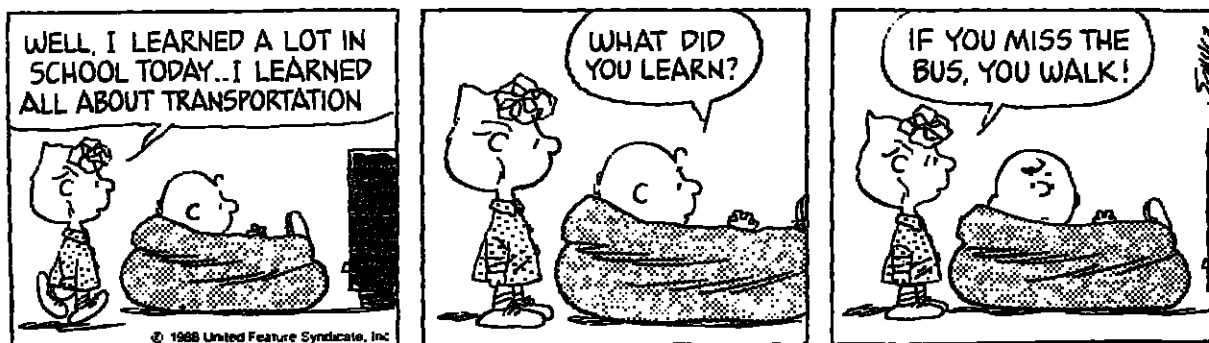
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Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VEYON

LUTIG

WINDAR

GENNIE

WHAT THAT SELFISH KID THOUGHT THE WORLD DID.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HIM A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: UPPER FLORA DISOWN TAUGHT.
Answer: What the crooks said as the cops closed in— THE HEAT IS ON

Namibia braces for black strike

WINDHOEK, Namibia (R) — Tens of thousands of black workers in South African-ruled Namibia have been called out for a two-day strike starting Monday despite warnings by authorities that force will be used to prevent disorder.

The planned general strike has been organised by trade unions in solidarity with a four-month-old mass schools boycott by black students.

It is the first time in recent years that concerted anti-government action on a large scale by students and the increasingly active trade unions has been planned.

Andrew Matjila, chairman of the government in the Namibian capital of Windhoek, which operates under Pretoria's supervision, has warned that authorities will not hesitate to deploy security forces to protect law-abiding citizens from people he labelled

"instigators and intimidators." "We have no intention of allowing events to slip out of our control," Matjila said in a statement Friday.

Ben Ullenga, general secretary of the Mineworkers Union of Namibia which is helping to organise the strike, denied government charges that workers were being forced to join the walkout, which he estimated would involve 60,000 workers.

He said workers were angry about police violence against their children in the boycott.

"When workers arrived home they found their children had been teargassed, beaten and

arrested," Ullenga said in a statement.

The students demand that army bases be moved away from schools in northern Namibia where South African-led armed forces operate against guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

SWAPO has fought since 1966 to win independence for Namibia, which Pretoria rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions calling for the independence of this huge former German colony on southern Africa's Atlantic coast.

South Africa says the resolutions cannot be implemented while Namibia is "threatened" by more than 40,000 Cuban troops helping the government fight rebels in neighbouring Angola.

Officials in Windhoek say the general strike is part of efforts to undermine Namibia and make the sparsely populated territory

ungovernable to hasten the end of Pretoria's rule.

Matjila accused Cuba and Angola of trying to exploit unrest in Namibia, and possibly sabotage the hesitant peace talks on the inter-twined Angolan and Namibian conflicts.

New Angolan talks

The next round of peace talks, involving the United States, Cuba, Angola and South Africa, is set for Cairo this week.

A South African spokeswoman said Foreign Minister P. W. Botha would meet South Africa's Angolan and Cuban adversaries for two or three days of negotiations, probably starting Thursday.

Pretoria made clear it will press for an explanation for the recent deployment of thousands of Cuban troops on Angola's tense border with Namibia.

"It will be a big issue," a diplomatic source close to the talks said.

The United States will also attend the negotiations on ending 13 years of bush war between Angola's government and South African-backed UNITA rebels led by Jonas Savimbi.

The talks, also aimed at achieving independence for Namibia, began in London last month and a second round was held in the Congo capital Brazzaville. They are still at an exploratory stage.

The peace process stalled two weeks ago because of arguments over the venue and South Africa put its army on high alert after what Pretoria described as a Cuban military thrust down Angola's West African coast.

Pretoria called up reservists to counter what it said was a force of up to 12,000 Cubans strung out within 12 kilometres of the Namibia border.

Singh challenges Indian status quo

ALLAHABAD, India (R) — A landslide opposition by-election win in Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's traditional stronghold has opened up new possibilities in Indian politics and may have thrown up a leader to challenge him.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh, who deserted Gandhi's cabinet last year to wage an anti-corruption campaign, romped home with a 110,000-vote majority in the prestigious Allahabad constituency, Gandhi's ancestral home.

Immediately, Singh's campaign began drawing up plans to unite the fractious opposition, which has defeated Gandhi's Congress (I) Party only once in 41 years of Indian independence.

Of the results declared so far, opposition candidates won three seats and Congress one. Counting was still going on in two others and the election commission was studying whether to order fresh

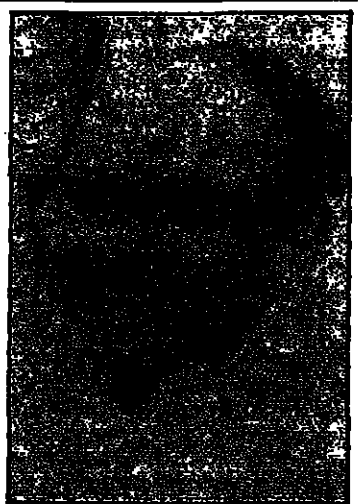
polls in a seventh after charges of vote-rigging.

Gandhi shrugged off the losses as normal mid-term reversals for a ruling party but opposition leaders had no doubt that former Defence Minister Singh's anti-corruption campaign had found an issue on which to attack Gandhi.

He campaigned on charges that Congress officials took bribes from Swedish and West German firms which won big defence contracts. The government denied the charges.

Campaign manager Sanjay Singh said Sunday that V.P. Singh was working on an agenda for a meeting of opposition leaders to work out a strategy for general elections Gandhi must call by the end of 1989.

The aim of such a meeting would be to find a formula for putting up common opposition candidates, Sanjay Singh said.



V.P. Singh

An aide said V.P. Singh would resume a motorcycle tour of the dusty northern plains around Allahabad to thank voters for his win.

"We are then thinking of riding motorcycles to Delhi to bring our anti-corruption campaign in front of the man who is most responsible for the crime in India, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi," Sanjay Singh said.

Reagan tries to 'shore up' contras

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan moved Saturday to shore up Nicaragua's struggling contra rebels, sending Secretary of State George Shultz to Central America and criticising the U.S. Congress for cutting contra aid.

Reagan ordered Shultz to visit El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica from June 29 to July 1 to analyse the situation in Central America following the breakdown of Nicaraguan peace talks on June 9.

The president, who is considering seeking a new contra military and bill, said the Sandinistas had once again proven they respond only to pressure.

The U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels have warned they have been weakened since the breakdown of the 11 weeks of peace talks, claiming the Sandinista forces took advantage of the ceasefire that began on April 1 to stage a military buildup.

Reagan said Congress in February disarmed the contras by failing to pass \$36.25 million in military and other aid requested by the administration, a move he called a "dangerous gamble with our national security."

"I've warned that if we fail in Nicaragua we may face a com-

munist central America spreading subversion northwards and southwards," Reagan said in his weekly radio address.

Shultz's visit to Central America will be his most important tour of the region since he attended the inauguration in mid-1984 of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte and made a surprise trip to Managua.

The administration has also faced trouble in Panama, where it has failed in efforts to force General Manuel Antonio Noriega from power, and in El Salvador, which has been shaken by the terminal illness of Duarte.

Shultz visited Duarte in hospital here Saturday and diplomatic sources said he had a "long and productive discussion" with Duarte on the situation in Central America.

A State Department statement said the trip came at a time when Reagan was increasingly concerned about the prospects for peace and democracy in Central America.

"We can still secure peace and freedom in Central America but time is growing short and the stakes are ever larger," Reagan said in his radio address.

Bush, Dukakis battle over crime

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois (R) — Vice President George Bush and Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis were locked in a bitter battle over law and order Saturday with Bush accusing his likely presidential rival of being soft on criminals.

A spokesman for Dukakis, the almost certain Democratic presidential candidate in November's general election, said Bush should have known better than to launch such an attack without checking the facts.

Bush, speaking in Springfield, during a swing through Illinois, said Dukakis should apologise to Americans for what he called an "outrageous" programme in

Massachusetts that allows certain convicts to go home on weekends on "furloughs."

In one of his strongest attacks of the campaign, Bush, who trails Dukakis in the polls, said: "The Democratic leadership can't get tough with drug criminals because they can't find it in their hearts to get tough with criminals, period."

Bush zeroed in on weekend furloughs, saying: "We don't let murderers out on vacation to terrorise innocent people."

The Massachusetts state legislature has recently revised the prison programme to ban furloughs for convicted murderers.

100 hurt in Bangladesh strike

DHAKA (R) — One hundred people were injured and 50 vehicles damaged when Bangladesh lorry and bus drivers staged a weekend strike in protest against plans to jail for life those responsible for fatal traffic accidents.

Police Sunday said they made no arrests during the clashes between strikers and drivers who continued working.

Most buses and trucks were off the roads after several transport workers' unions called an indefinite strike to protest against the government plans.

"The government needs to make provision for harsher

punishment to curb the increasing number of road accidents and related fatalities," a police officer said.

The strikers say poor traffic control systems and corrupt officials who issue licences to bus and lorry drivers without proper verification were to blame for an average 2,500 road deaths every year.

The home ministry, in a statement in early 1987, announced plans to introduce life imprisonment for those causing road deaths but the proposal has yet to be made into a law because of persistent protests.

43 die in Philippine fighting

MANILA (R) — A communist rebel mortar attack on an army post in the northern Philippines triggered fighting in which 43 people were killed, the military said Sunday.

In the south, officials said they were investigating whether a power cut that plunged part of Mindanao Island into darkness was caused by storms or rebel gunfire.

Military reports said 32 New People's Army (NPA) rebels and 11 soldiers were killed in fighting in Isabela Province that began before dawn Thursday when about 150 guerrillas fired mortars and machineguns at an army detachment in Palanan town.

The soldiers were killed in the initial rebel onslaught in the mountainous area 310 kilometres north of Manila, battalion commander Colonel Reynaldo Lazaro said in a report to military headquarters in the capital.

A reinforcement of 500 troops, backed by helicopter gunships, chased the rebels and killed 17 of them, Lazaro said. He said 15 more guerrilla bodies were retrieved in the area Sunday following mop-up operations.

Mujahedeen control key Afghan town

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — The Afghan Mujahedeen movement said Sunday they had almost taken the capital of a province in Afghanistan and were preparing to attack a remaining fortress held by government troops there.

About 600 fighters captured most posts and offices of the Soviet-backed government in the Zabol provincial capital of Kalat Friday with the help of defecting officials and militiamen, sources in neighbouring Pakistan said.

They said 400 to 500 troops were entrenched in a fortress on high ground some 300 metres north of the town, which lies on the main highway between the capital Kabul and Afghanistan's second largest city of Kandahar.

Afghan exiles said a late Saturday night Kabul Radio broadcast denied reports that Kalat had fallen to the rebels. If the reports were true Kalat would be the first provincial capital to be taken by them during the nine-year-old war.

The Mujahedeen captured most of the government posts in Kalat without resistance because of the militia collaboration, the sources said.

No estimate of casualties was immediately available.

The rebels have told the town's civilian population, estimated at between 50,000 and 60,000, to move out to more secure places during the battle for the fortress.

In Moscow, The Soviet news agency TASS said Sunday Afghan army figures show more than 1,200 Mujahedeen fighters had been killed or wounded since Soviet troops began leaving Afghanistan last month.

TASS quoted a statement released by the army's general staff in Kabul as saying the rebels had stepped up attacks against government troops but the army was capable of defending itself.

The army was in control of all areas abandoned by Soviet troops since they began withdrawing from Afghanistan May 15.

In the past month, 524 Mujahedeen fighters had been killed and 710 badly wounded in battles with the Afghan army, TASS quoted the statement as saying.

TASS reported powerful Afghan army defensive operations in Nangarhar, Jawzjan, Kapisa and Neemroz provinces.

It said Soviet troops had pulled out of Kunar, Nangarhar, Ghor, Paktia and the Panjshir districts of Parwan province, and the Afghan army was now in control



A drunken English soccer fan lies among flowers outside Dusseldorf railway station.

Over 700 held in soccer violence

FRANKFURT (AP) — The number of arrests connected with fan violence and rowdiness at the European soccer championships in five German cities climbed over 700 Saturday, as police rounded up more brawling English and West Germans.

Frankfurt police said that in addition to 88 arrests late Friday and early Saturday, another 12 fans were arrested just before the game between England and the Soviets.

Police spokesman Manfred Fuellhardt told AP in a telephone interview, "12 more were arrested, but I don't know if they were English or German. We had a mix of both before."

He said some of those taken into custody were picked up en route to the game, while others were arrested as they attempted to enter the stadium.

Police were bracing for more violence after the Soviets won 3-1. Police helicopters buzzed overhead looking for trouble-makers.

West German police have been staging massive shows of force, with more than 1,000 officers on special duty in each of the five cities hosting matches.

The latest round of arrests netted 208 fans in Munich and Frankfurt.

Frankfurt police spokesman

Kurt Kraus said 72 English and 16 West German supporters were jailed Saturday.

"The Germans are members of the notorious Eagle Front Fan Club," Kraus said. The Eagle Front is a group of violence-prone, young fans who profess right-wing extremist beliefs and often have tattoos of neo-Nazi emblems resembling swastikas.

In the Bavarian capital of Munich, police arrested 120, all West German except for one English fan, for brawls that broke out as the host team beat Spain 2-0.

Most of the attention continued to focus on the English, whose team was eliminated from competition before the match with the Soviet Union.

"We are figuring on more clashes tonight and early Sunday," said another Frankfurt police spokesman, Peter Stasiewicz.

Throughout the afternoon, police herded about 300 of the drinking, shouting English fans into a small square in front of the train station.

The fans began chanting "God save the queen" during their violent, self-proclaimed "invasion of Germany 1988." Most were gulping beer as they waited to catch the subway to the stadium.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

EEC pledges continued aid for Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The European Economic Community (EEC) will continue to support Ethiopia's drive to grow enough food and cope with recurrent drought, a senior EEC official was quoted as saying Saturday. The official Ethiopian News Agency said Development Commissioner Lorenzo Natali made the pledge at a meeting in Addis Ababa with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. Natali arrived in Ethiopia Thursday to discuss EEC concern over disruption of relief food distribution in the troubled north of the country, where two rebel movements went on the offensive in March. The EEC, with the United States and the Soviet Union, is one of the biggest donors of food to Ethiopia. It has provided about 40 per cent of the 1.3 million tonnes Ethiopia says it needs this year to feed some seven million drought victims.

Pakistan riots death toll rise to 5

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Two policemen died Sunday, raising to five the death toll from Saturday's riots in the southern Pakistani city of Hyderabad, doctors in a government hospital said. A government statement said soldiers with order to shoot-on-sight imposed a curfew in the industrial town 175 kilometres east of Karachi after 500 students armed with wooden staves and hatchets ransacked the mayor's office. Doctors said at least 40 people were injured in the fighting between rival ethnic groups.

Polisario holds talks with OAU

BAMAKO (R) — Polisario guerrilla leader Mohammed Abdul Aziz held talks in Bamako Saturday with Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Chairman Moussa Traore to discuss a peaceful settlement to the 12-year desert war over the Western Sahara. The talks were part of international peace efforts sponsored by the United Nations and the OAU with all parties involved or concerned in the conflict. Both organisations are trying to resolve the issue through a referendum in the former Spanish colony, where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have fought Moroccan troops since 1976 for independence. Abdul Aziz holds the post of president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, the self-styled Polisario Front government recognised by the OAU in 1984.

Laos to hold first election in 13 years

BANGKOK (AP) — Laos will hold national elections for the first time since the communists seized power 13 years ago, the official Laotian news agency KPL said Sunday. The June 26 voting will be for representatives of 113 districts throughout the landlocked southeast Asian nation. Souvannalath Sayngavong, vice general secretary of the Supreme People's Assembly, recently told visiting reporters in Laos the district elections would be followed in mid-November by polling at provincial and national levels. Village elections are planned for a later date. The first assembly was formed on Dec. 2, 1975 and assigned to draft a constitution and an election code and prepare the country for elections. The constitution is expected to be finalised next year.



Peking braces for watermelon season

PEKING (AP) — Authorities are issuing special road passes and extra gas rations, and male trains and tractor caravans stand poised to quench Peking's voracious summer appetite for watermelons. Peking area farmers this year will produce 300 million kilograms of watermelon for the capital's 10 million people, a 20 per cent increase from 1987, the official China daily quoted Peking Vice Mayor Huang Chao as saying. Some Chinese believe watermelons have medical uses. Others take the fruit so seriously that a court last year sentenced two men to life imprisonment for planning the theft of 25,000 kilograms of watermelon from Peking train depot. The taste for watermelon has created other social problems. Last summer Peking sanitation workers had to dispose of some 50,000 tons of rinds. In Shanghai, China's largest city, about 1,000 people were treated in hospitals during one summer month after tripping on discarded rinds.

Museum pays tribute to celery

PORTAGE, Michigan (AP) — City officials are putting together a \$235,000 museum that will pay tribute to one of the most important things in Kalamazoo County history — celery. "Celery really kind of put Kalamazoo on the map," said Michigan historian Larry Massie. "From 1890 until the 1920s, the Kalamazoo area was one of the world leaders in the production of celery." Dutch settlers began growing celery in Kalamazoo in the early 19th century, and their success spurred celery farms in Portage, Massie said. However, in the 1930s celery farming gave way to paper mills. Work on the museum, called the Celery Flats Interpretive Centre, is scheduled to begin in August, and is to be completed by April 1989. The museum will offer historic and working displays on celery farming. Portage officials said they have gathered enough artifacts for the centre but are looking for more objects, such as celery washers and railroad cars.

Houston gives unscheduled performance

ROME (AP) — Pop singer Whitney Houston gave Rome an unscheduled performance as she soaked up the sun on a hotel balcony, drawing an audience of cheering fans, including Olympic skiing champion Alberto Tomba. Houston, in Rome for a concert, was spotted sunbathing in shorts and a T-shirt with her legs dangling from the hotel's second-floor balcony on the central Via Veneto. Italy's state television alarmingly reported on the midday news that there were rumours she was going to jump. Meanwhile, cheering fans gathered outside, shouting "sei forte" or "you're great." Tomba, in Rome for a tennis tournament, heard the shouts from his fourth-floor room and thought the ovation was for him. Realising his mistake, Tomba joined in the cheering. The commotion also attracted police officers standing guard at the nearby U.S. embassy. The police, who said they feared for the singer's safety, dispersed the crowd and asked Houston to return to her room.

Soviets march for peace

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 220 Soviet citizens began a month-long walking tour of the United States Friday with the aim of building friendship and lobbying for disarmament. The Soviets, joined by as many as 100 Americans, planned to walk to Philadelphia and then travel by bus to Illinois for a walk across the Mississippi River to Des Moines, Iowa. The group will fly from Des Moines to Los Angeles for a final walk to San Francisco, ending with a mid-July rock concert in Golden Gate Park. They plan to walk as much as 24 kilometres a day and spend nights in a mobile tent city. The tour is sponsored by International Peace Walk Incorporated, a private, non-profit U.S. organisation which is planning a reciprocal walk from Odesa to Kiev in August involving between 200 and 250 Americans. The exchange began a year ago with a three-week trek by 230 Americans from Leningrad to Moscow.

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Evangelists take preaching to Rio beaches

By Roger Atwood
Reuter

RIO DE JANEIRO — When Carlos da Marra first saw the crowd gathered on Rio's Copacabana Beach, he thought there had been a murder.

Looking more closely, he saw people clutching Bibles and singing hymns about deliverance from sin and eternal damnation.

The Kingdom of God's Universal Church was holding an evening prayer service that drew some 40,000 people on a beach that more often attracts prostitutes and petty criminals after the sun goes down.

"I had certainly never seen anything like it before in this area," said Da Marra, a long-time resident of the neighbourhood.

The Universal Church and other Protestant evangelical groups have made Copacabana, known worldwide as a playground of sin, into their battleground for moral rectitude.

"You might think of mis-

Indians in the jungle," said Sergio Alcantara, who is studying to become a pastor with a small Protestant denomination called the Maranata Church, founded 20 years ago.

"But we too are missionaries in a jungle of concrete and vice. People in this neighbourhood live very far from Biblical principles," said the lean, bespectacled Alcantara.

Glaring contrasts

By day, he and other church activists give sermons, pass out leaflets with passages from the Bible and sing hymns to anybody who will listen in a square near the church's Copacabana Temple.

By night, the square becomes the haunt of muggers, street urchins and prostitutes of both sexes.

All of Rio's glaring contrasts can be found in Copacabana, a narrow strip of land between mountains and the sea on the city's southern flank.

Hotels charging \$100 a night

line the beachfront, where foreign tourists lounge on the lovely white sand.

In nearby streets and plazas, homeless people eke out a living by begging and scrounging through garbage. A few blocks away, squalid shantytowns, with filthy shacks and open sewers, sprawl over the hillsides.

Local residents say they see no harm in the evangelists but doubt they will have much luck in the neighbourhood.

"If they can straighten some people out, fine," said Camilo Cuquejo, co-owner of Copacabana's Marbella Cabaret.

"But for a poor woman from the slums, prostitution pays and Christianity doesn't. It's sad but true."

The neighbourhood has a reputation for violence, though a beefed up police presence lately has made the streets safer.

"These days, you see about as many police on the streets as prostitutes," said Da Marra, who lives on a Copacabana strip known as Prado Junior

that is studded with cabarets announcing their "erotic shows" in neon lights.

He runs a dimly lit cafe a few blocks from the Universal Church's Copacabana Temple and often sees church activists on Prado Junior passing out leaflets quoting Biblical verse.

"They are very well-dressed and always have a smile on their faces. They really stand out in the crowd," he said.

Protestant evangelical groups, many of them well-financed and led by tireless young preachers, have made considerable inroads in recent years into the dominance of Brazil's traditional Catholic Church.

There are no figures for all Protestant denominations but the Universal Church alone claims 150,000 members. Leaders of the church, founded in Rio in 1977, say it is growing fast.

"We pray for the sick and the oppressed so that they will be carried to a communion with God. This was the point of our prayer service on Copacabana

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